



THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS

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GUJARAT WITHDRAWS 10 CASES LINKED TO PATIDAR AGITATION

The withdrawal of cases over the 2015 stir for quota comes months ahead of the state election set to be held in December

CURIOUS TIMING TO ARREST VOTE BANK DRIFT

It comes a day after influential Patidar leader Naresh Patel, who is reportedly mulling a political entry, met Congress leaders. The Patidars, who have traditionally backed the BJP, were seen drifting away to rivals since the 2015 stir. The party has been trying to woo back the community. Last year, it gave the state CM's post to Patidar leader Bhupendra Patel

THREAT OF ANOTHER STATEWIDE AGITATION

■ Congress leader Hardik Patel, who led the stir in 2015, has threatened another statewide protest from March 25, if the government does not scrap all cases against Patidar members
■ During the 2015 agitation for quota, the police registered 485 cases against people belonging to the Patidar community | P10

140

CASES LINKED TO QUOTA AGITATION
PENDING BEFORE COURTS

SCIENCE FIRST: NAVEEN'S BODY TO AID RESEARCH

CM receives mortal remains at KIA, thousands attend last rites

6 SUBHASH CHANDRA @ Chalageri

EMBRACING and kissing her son Naveen Gyanagoudar for one last time before handing over the body to the anatomy section of SSIMS and Research Centre at Davanagere, Vijayalakshmi's grief knew no bounds. Tears gushed out of her eyes when doctors told her to perform the last rites before his mortal remains were taken away to be embalmed at the research centre.

The family had taken a decision a few days ago to donate the body to the centre to help promote research. Vijayalakshmi and her elder son Harsha travelled from Chalageri to Davanagere with the body and were inconsolable while conducting a puja and handing over the mortal remains to the hospital on Monday. The body will be completely embalmed at the research centre on Tuesday.

In the absence of Naveen's father Shekharappa, the relatives consoled the grieving mother and took her back to Chalageri.

Earlier, the body of Naveen, a medical student killed at Karkhiv city in Ukraine in the Russia-instigated war on March



Residents and villagers from surrounding areas take part in a procession carrying Naveen Gyanagoudar's body, at Chalageri village, Haveri district, on Monday | EXPRESS

1, arrived at the Kempegowda International Airport around 3 am. It was received by Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai and Shekharappa. The body was then transferred from the coffin to a freezer box and taken to Chalageri.

Naveen's mortal remains were kept at his home for public viewing and the last rites were conducted as per Voeerashiva Lingayat traditions with hundreds of people from the village and surroundings paying their last respects. P4

'LOOKING TO ACCOMMODATE 700 UKRAINE STUDENTS'

Health and Medical Education Minister Dr K Sudhakar on Monday said that the State Government is facilitating the continuation of education of about 700 Ukraine-returned medical students in 60 medical colleges across Karnataka, and a high-level panel has been formed to look into the future of these students. This follows a meeting between the minister and the students at Vidhana Soudha. P4

Govt to get Swiss a/c data of Salgaocars soon

SHAHID FARIDI @ New Delhi

THE government of India will soon receive details of money held in Swiss accounts by the powerful Salgaocar family of Goa. The Swiss Federal Court has ordered that India be supplied with the information it requested.

Industrialists Mukesh and Anil Ambani's sister, Deepti, is married into the Salgaocar family. The details sought by the Indian government concern accounts held by trusts whose main beneficiaries are Deepti Salgaocar's two children.

The Salgaocar family had been locked in a long legal battle in Switzerland to prevent India's tax authorities from getting details of trusts set up by the family in that country. India's ministry of finance had requested details of these trusts

about eight years ago. The court has finally ruled in favour of transmitting the requested data.

Deepti Salgaocar's daughter Isheta Salgaocar is married to Neeshal Modi, brother of Nirav Modi, who was declared a fugitive economic offender after he and his uncle Mehul Choksi were found involved in a scam involving alleged defrauding of banks of ₹14,000 crore.

CONTINUED ON: P12

STASH OF HINDUJA BROTHERS TO BE OUTHED

Among the other big names whose Swiss bank account details are expected to be released, too, are that of the Hinduja, a leading Indian business family. Sources said information on Swiss accounts of the Hinduja brothers is expected in a matter of days.

Speeding garbage truck mows down 14-year-old

BENGALURU: A 14-year-old girl was killed, while a biker and another pedestrian were injured, after a speeding garbage truck knocked them down in Hebbal on Monday. The garbage truck driver, Manjunath, has been arrested | P2

Dhami, Sawant to remain CMs for 2nd term

Dehradun/Panaji: Pushkar Singh Dhami and Pramod Sawant will be the CMs of Uttarakhand and Goa for a second term after the BJP on Monday weighed in favour of ability to perform under pressure ahead of the 2024 polls | P9



132 FEARED DEAD IN CHINA PLANE CRASH

A Boeing 737-800 aircraft crashed in China's Guangxi province on Monday, likely killing all 132 on board

DGCA has put Boeing 737 fleets of Indian carriers on "enhanced surveillance". SpiceJet, Vistara and Air India Express have B-737s

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MEKEDATU ISSUE

K'taka slams resolution in TN Assembly

ENS @ Bengaluru

THE Karnataka government took strong exception to the resolution moved in the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly against the state's effort to construct a balancing reservoir at Mekedatu. CM Basavaraj Bommai took to social media on Monday and criticised the Tamil Nadu government's move. He said the resolution passed in the TN assembly is against the law. "It's an anti-people resolution in which one state is snatching away the rights of another. The resolution shows that Tamil Nadu does not believe in the federal system. The people of Karnataka and the government strongly condemn the resolution," he tweeted.

He said the government is steadfast on implementing the project. "It is related to the Cauvery which originates from the state. As per the Cauvery Water Dispute Tribunal, 177.25 tmcft of water should be provided to Tamil Nadu and the state has the right over the remaining water. Without considering the political decision of Tamil Nadu, the government will take all necessary steps for the project," he added.

EXPRESS READ

'Fuel prices hiked by 80 paise after 4-mth gap'

New Delhi: Retail price of petrol and diesel will see an increase from Tuesday after a four-month hiatus, according to Reuters. Both petrol and diesel prices will go up by 80 paise per litre, the news agency reported quoting dealers

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Ballari Road jinx: BBMP truck runs over school girl

2 injured; Pedestrians forced to cross road as BBMP fails to clear water in subway

MANJU SHETTA @ Bengaluru

IMPROPER water draining works in the partly inundated Hebbal subway under the high traffic density Ballari Road snuffed out the life of a 14-year-old girl on Monday afternoon. The girl, Akshaya, while returning home from school around 12.45 pm, was forced to avoid the subway as it was partly filled with water and had to instead try and jump over the three-foot-high road divider near the Hebbal underpass.

Akshaya, a Class 9 student at Stella Maris English School, had attended an exam, taken a BMTC bus and got down at the Hebbal stop opposite the Hebbal police station to return home in Vishwanatha Nagenahalli. She and two women pedestrians were crossing the road towards the police station and were approaching the road divider when the speeding garbage truck of Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike ran over Akshaya, killing her instantly. The truck also injured one of the women pedestrians, Soumya, 40. It then crashed into a two-wheeler and a car, injuring the rider - Vikar, 42.

Akshaya, daughter of Narasimha Murthy who is a conductor with Bangalore Metropolitan Transport Corporation, and Geetha, a homemaker, hailed from Kolar. Murthy filed a complaint with the RT Nagar Traffic police, and the garbage truck driver Manjunath was arrested.

He alleged that there was water-logging in the subway due

to heavy rain on Sunday evening and pedestrians, including his daughter, were unable to use it.

A police officer from Hebbal police station said they had alerted the BBMP control room about the subway inundation. "But no one came to clear the water. We have decided to file a case against BBMP officials," he added.

A BBMP official said, "Water had gushed into the subway from all sides. Pumps were brought and water was cleared from 9 am till 11 am."

Despite the official's claims, the subway continued to be partly inundated even after the fatal accident took place, indicating that the works were not done properly forcing pedestrians to cross the road at the grade level risking their lives. Also, there were no Home Guards or traffic police to regulate the traffic at the time.

BBMP Chief Commissioner Gaurav Gupta, who visited the spot, said he has sought a detailed report from the engineers and is awaiting the police report. He said he will talk to the BBMP administrator and state government to give due compensation to Akshaya's family.

"It is an unfortunate incident. People should not take such risks. There is a skywalk and a pedestrian underpass which should have been used. Three to three-and-a-half-foot-high road dividers have been erected on the stretch to prevent people from crossing the road at grade level. CCTV footage details are being obtained," he said.



Akshaya (inset), who was run over by a BBMP garbage truck at Hebbal in Bengaluru on Monday. One of her shoes lies by the side of the road after the mishap; also seen is the entrance to the subway, which was flooded with rainwater | VINOD KUMAR T

'ROADS DESIGNED ONLY FOR VEHICLES, NOT PEDESTRIANS'

BOSKY KHANNA @ Bengaluru

THE death of a 14-year-old girl on Ballari Road in Hebbal has once again raised questions among citizens and experts, one being that the city roads are designed keeping in mind automobiles, not pedestrians.

They also point out that there is no seriousness and accountability among officials to ensure that basic civic amenities are in place and that commoners are not inconvenienced.

Several pedestrians point out that they rush on the roads to cross at grade, since the skywalks and subways are not safe, or have simply failed to serve their purpose.

A BBMP engineer admitted that rainwater had indeed gushed into the underpass and there was also seepage due to which it was filled with water. An expert working with BBMP

said: "BBMP officials have stated before the High Court and the government that underground drainage work is being done and silt is being cleared. But it does not look like it is happening. Also, the BBMP has not learnt any lesson and has not done its job to ensure that rainwater harvesting pits below the underpasses are clean, so that there is no water logging."

According to India Meteorological Department reports, there was no rain at Kempegowda International Airport, however, the rain gauge at Kar-

nataka State Natural Disaster Monitoring Centre recorded 48 mm rainfall at Hebbal.

Apart from this, the Directorate of Urban Land Transport along with the traffic police department, is working on a pedestrian safety Bill.

Urbanist and civic evangelist V Ravichandrar said people need humanity in the system. "There is no heart, someone has to be accountable. Unless there is a culture of punishment, things will not improve. This incident has once again shown that there is bad implementation of design, improper de-silting of drains and poor quality execution of work," he added.

Srinivas Alavilli, Head, Civic Participation, Janaagraha said the problem with road design is that they are created only for vehicles. Skywalks and underpasses are an attempt to push people off the streets.

The BBMP has not learnt any lesson and has not done its job to ensure that rainwater harvesting pits below the underpasses are clean, so that there is no water logging

An expert working with BBMP

BDA CALLS TENDERS FOR KARANTH LAYOUT

ENS @ Bengaluru

BANGALORE Development Authority (BDA) on Monday finally called tenders to the tune of Rs 1,865.34 crore for Dr K Shivaram Karanth Layout. The tenders have been awarded in the form of nine separate contracts for

the nine sectors in the layout.

The layout will be BDA's second biggest, and 28,000 sites will be readied on 3,546 acres and 12 gunts. It will extend across 17 villages, between Doddaballapur and Hesaraghatta.

BDA Commissioner Rajesh Gowda told *TNIE* that the ten-

der covers formation of sites, construction of roads, roadside drains, water supply, underground drainage, cross drainage works, storm water drains, rain water harvesting and electrical works in each of the sectors, with an 11-month period given after the work order is issued.

The cost of the contracts ranges between Rs 147.98 crore and Rs 274.87 crore. The last date for submission of tenders is April 25, said the tender document released on Monday.

BDA has periodically demolished illegal buildings which have come up on the layout.



Daily Starscope

PETER VIDAL

22nd March: What a fine day this could be. The Moon's changing mood indicates a high level of inspiration and creative flair. We can all imagine a better world. This is no time to put such dreams into practice, but it is an excellent moment to make plans for the future, and to prepare for the best!

ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr 20)

I am quite sure that in the past you have been slighted at work. However, it takes a brave person to get the better of a man. At least a financial wrong should soon be put to rights. In matters of the heart, your feelings are still dominated by fantasies - rather than facts. Nothing wrong with that!

TAURUS (Apr 21 - May 21)

A first glance at your planetary picture suggests that the current situation is rather simple. A deeper examination, however, reveals subtleties that are intimately bound up with how successfully you communicate with close partners. The golden rule is - always give them a chance to respond!

GEMINI (May 22 - June 21)

Mercury's intriguing relationship with unusual Uranus is highly significant because of its surprising influence over your entire life. The net result will be contradictory influences and a forecast of awkward choices. But, then, sometimes a muddle helps you make your escape!

CANCER (June 22 - July 23)

The planetary picture has been unsettled for so long, and a lot of troubled waters have flowed under the bridges in recent times. As from now, the Cancerian horoscope is becoming decidedly more relaxed. You'll do well, by the way, if you take the month high ground.

LEO (July 24 - Aug 23)

Mercury has spent the last few weeks extravagantly influencing your sign, so you should have had ample room to gather information and to make your choices. There is no point at all in giving other people the run-around - you'll only waste valuable time.

VIRGO (Aug 24 - Sept 23)

The Moon's practical presence encourages you to make your own way within the family and, in all matters concerning the home, you should keep your own counsel. Nobody can give you advice which will match your own ideas, but that doesn't mean you shouldn't listen courteously.

LIBRA (Sept 24 - Oct 23)

Venus and Jupiter are offering all the help you need. Personally, emotionally and professionally your life can be transformed. All you need to do is accept that a particular chapter has come to an end - and that the people who can help you might be the last ones you would have thought of.

SCORPIO (Oct 24 - Nov 22)

For quite some time you have buried your head in the sand, but then this is a terribly natural thing for any Scorpio to do. Looking at things from the other angle, why should you get involved in matters which you honestly feel are none of your business?

SAGITTARIUS (Nov 23 - Dec 22)

Please don't complain about your financial situation. There is a great deal you can do to help yourself and heave yourself up by your own bootstraps. It is amazing how well you can do when you try. And the less you make an effort, you'll get more than you asked for.

CAPRICORN (Dec 23 - Jan 20)

You, as a Capricorn, know better than anyone that certain past obligations cannot be ignored. If you want to renege on a promise, do so with the absolute total minimum of fuss! At work, an employer needs planning, so tread carefully and smile sweetly.

AQUARIUS (Jan 21 - Feb 19)

If there is any chance of a confrontation, then it's likely to be caused by a massive muddle! I don't think you need work too hard or long to prevent some sort of showdown. When push comes to shove, you may indeed find that a threatened confrontation fails to materialise. Family members may even do what they're told!

PISCES (Feb 20 - Mar 20)

The Moon moves on today, exerting an additional role in your partnerships. This means that you will have to take other people's wishes into account, but that partnerships will offer considerable benefits. Keep an eye on private priorities but give the emphasis to public projects.

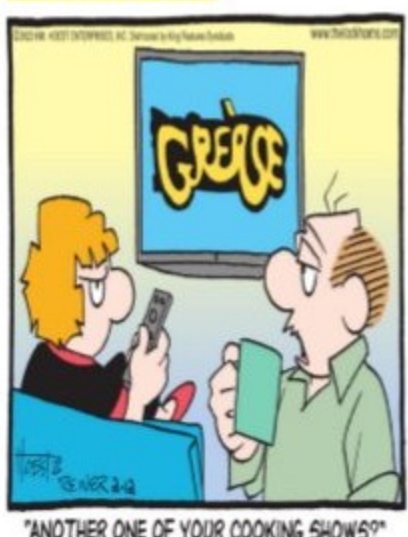
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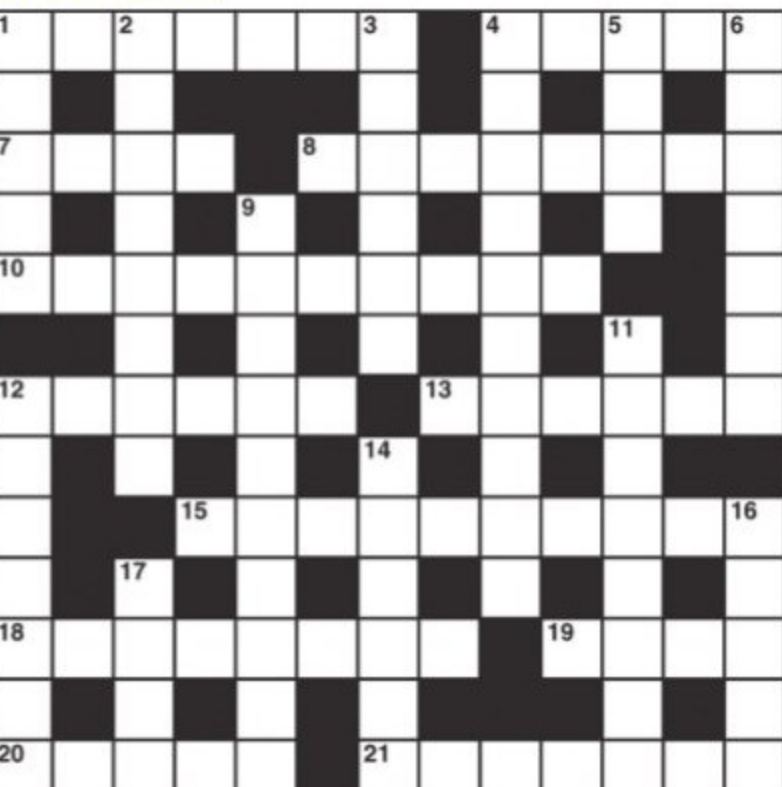
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SU DO KU



CROSS WORD



ACROSS

- Agrees one's a month in arrears (7)
- Partly uniform in cut perhaps (5)
- A greeting is regrettably returned before morning (6)
- Work at opening port (8)
- Duties that do not extend very far (5,5)
- An edible root is hard maybe to recreate (6)
- Returning, the ships may be waiting for a wind (6)
- Commanding individual with important role to play (7,3)
- Respect (possibly show those that have paid (8)
- Water rate? (4)
- Wicked impulse that makes men do havoc (5)
- Put off by tact that included a song (7)

DOWN

- Isle everyone goes round to (5)
- Match money playing dice (8)
- A greeting is regrettably returned before morning (6)
- Trees will not usually grow above this height (6,4)
- In France we show common sense (4)
- Small company with unusually short Roman soldiers (7)
- A Scot of the greatest utility (10)
- In vulgar fashion usually (8)
- Stopped work and went to bed (7)
- Revised point I'd raised with Edward (6)
- Recorded like scores of orchestral pieces (5)
- The lowest sort of people but always found at the top (4)

YESTERDAY'S SOLUTIONS

Across: 1 Come to grips, 9 Nominal, 10 Vista, 11 Echo, 12 Lament, 14 Rector, 16 Defect, 18 Gossip, 19 Foot, 22 Token, 23 Jobless, 24 Personality.

JUMBLE

Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

CNHIP
NLADB
NCAGEL
SIALHV



Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon

ANSWERS TOMORROW

YESTERDAY'S Jumbles: STUNT, STYLE, AGENCY, EXCEED. ANSWER: Some members of the U.S. House of Representatives ate lunch at the "DELEGATE-ESSEN"



DURATION OF PANDEMIC
2 YEARS, 14 DAYS

CASES REPORTED
Today: 71 | Yesterday: 109

TALLY
Today: 39,44,785
Yesterday: 39,44,714

DEATHS Today: 2
Yesterday: 2
DISCHARGES Today: 173
Yesterday: 143

ACTIVE CASES
Today: 1,891
Yesterday: 1,995

POSITIVITY RATE Today: 6.03%
Yesterday: 6.04%
MORTALITY RATE Today: 1.01%
Yesterday: 1.01%

RECOVERY RATE Today: 98.93%
Yesterday: 98.93%

DISTRICT-WISE COVID CASES
LAST 24 HOURS

Bengaluru Urban	53
Bengaluru Rural	0
Bagalkot	0
Ballari	1
Belagavi	0
Bidar	0
Chamarajanagar	0
Chikballapur	4
Chikmagalur	1
Chitradurga	5
Dakshina Kannada	1
Davanagere	0
Dharwad	1
Gadag	0
Hassan	0
Haveri	0
Kalaburagi	0
Kodagu	0
Kolar	0
Koppal	0
Mandya	0
Mysuru	0
Raichur	0
Ramanagara	2
Shivamogga	2
Tumakuru	1
Udupi	0
Uttara Kannada	0
Vijayapura	0
Yadgir	0

Parents of special kids to raise awareness on Down's Syndrome

Incident of lost boy exposes lack of knowledge among police, public on disorder

CHETANA BELAGERE @ Bengaluru

IT was a casual afternoon for 200-odd mothers of 'Bangalore Humsafar', a WhatsApp group of parents of children with Down's Syndrome, when a Facebook post popped up. It was by a techie returning home from work in a cab, who had found a 13-year-old boy with Down's Syndrome, wearing a school uniform, standing on the main road of Kanakapura during the wee hours, over a week ago.

The post gripped the hearts of parents on the Humsafar group, drawing an almost immediate response. One parent rushed to Talaghattapura police station, where the boy was waiting for help.

"One of the parents, who stays off Kanakapura Road, rushed to the station and saw the boy was muttering some words. The police thought he was from Kaggalipura and took him around to see if he lived there but till 4pm, they couldn't trace his residence and brought him back to the station," narrated Nayana Kiran, a dentist, and mother of 16-year-old Purab.

Being the mother of a child with Down's Syndrome, she says she couldn't rest with the boy sitting in the police



The techie, along with Aakash and his mother, at the Talaghattapura police station recently

station with no help. She and another parent reached the station again. "I couldn't hold my tears when I saw how helplessly he was sitting there. In the police station, I could see everyone was busy and no one really had time to even check if this boy had to use the wash-room or needed water. With no awareness on the disorder, they also seemed helpless. That's the first time we as parents realised that police stations need awareness on it and how to handle such special children," Nayana explained.

The two parents in the police station and other anxious parents on the group would not sleep without reuniting the boy with his parents. Special schools

normally have uniforms with the name of the institution embroidered, or an ID card with phone number, but this boy only had a diary which said 'Aakash, AMC School'.

Nayana then did a Google search for AMC School, and reached out to a friend who runs a special school. After some tracking, they found that Aakash was missing for two days and his mother, Bharathi, was searching frantically for him.

Bharathi, a single parent and tea vendor at Madiwala market area, was contacted and reunited with Aakash around 10pm that night.

Speaking to *TNIE* from Tirupathi, Bharathi said there were no words to express her feelings that night. "I had decided I would die by suicide if I didn't find him. My husband left me because I delivered him. I work from 2am to 8pm to ensure I feed him and myself. The techie who saved my son and these parents should be blessed with a long life," she wept. That agonising night, she had decided to take her son to Tirupathi if she found him alive and healthy.

Parents on the Humsafar group say that schools should tutor such children on the parents' mobile numbers, and area where they live.

DRUNK MAN SLITS WIFE'S THROAT IN FRONT OF KIDS

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bengaluru

A 36-year-old inebriated man killed his wife by slitting her throat in front of their children and then attempted to end his life. The incident took place at Attibele early on Monday morning. The accused has been admitted to a hospital and his condition is said to be critical.

The victim, Lavanya (30), and her husband Sampath Kumar, are residents of Abbanapalya. Kumar is an employee in a factory in Jigani.

A senior police officer said around 5.30 am, the couple had a fight and in a

fit of rage, Kumar slit Lavanya's throat with a kitchen knife. One of their minor sons, who rushed to his mother's rescue, sustained minor stab injuries. Kumar ran out of house before slitting his throat and collapsed on the drain outside his house. Neighbours found Lavanya lying in a pool of blood and their 9-year-old son crying.

Preliminary investigation revealed that Kumar used to come home drunk and fight with Lavanya suspecting her fidelity and she decided to separate from him. But her family reunited the couple many times.

CRIME PATROL

Man takes shelter from rain under truck, run over

BENGALURU: A 40-year-old man, who had taken shelter from the rain under a parked truck, was run over as the driver did not notice him, in Vivek Nagar on Sunday night. The deceased, Immanuel, used to work in a welding shop. A senior police officer said the truck driver parked the vehicle on the roadside of Vivek Nagar Main Road and Immanuel tried to escape from the rain by taking shelter under the vehicle. After sometime, the driver started the vehicle, but Immanuel, who was under the influence of alcohol, didn't hear the sound. He came under the rear wheels. A case of negligent driving has been filed against the driver. **ENS**

In preparation for the Khelo India University Games, Youth Empowerment and Sports Minister K C Narayan Gowda inaugurated a camp for the beautification of Sree Kanterava Stadium. National Service Scheme volunteers will undertake the beautification of the stadium

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Bomma to hold meet on precautions for fourth wave

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bengaluru

WITH the number of Covid-19 cases on the rise in many countries, Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai will soon hold a meeting with senior officers to discuss precautionary measures to be taken in the state.

Health and Medical Education Minister Dr K Sudhakar on Monday informed the State Legislative Council that there are suggestions on making the use of masks compulsory indoors in public places, which will be discussed at the meeting. While there is no need to panic, people need to follow Covid-appropriate behaviour, he said.

The new Omicron variant BA.2 was first traced in the Philippines and is now found in around 40 countries. The Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Kanpur, which had forecast the third wave in the country, has now indicated that if there is a fourth wave, it would be

in August 2022, the minister said. While the extensive vaccination drive in the country will help fight the next wave, there is a need to follow Covid protocol, he added.

In Karnataka, the first dose coverage has been 101.7 per cent, with 4,97,67,326 doses; the second dose coverage is 96 per cent, with 4,69,70,758 doses, Sudhakar said.

On the preparedness to deal with the fourth wave, the minister said the state had ramped up infrastructure after the first wave and now has 55,256 oxygenated beds, oxygen generation and storage capacity has been increased from 300 tonnes to 1070 tonnes, and 265 labs have been established to do tests, he said. "Ewexperience gained while fighting the last three waves of the pandemic will help to effectively face the fourth wave, if it comes. We have made preparations and will continue to prepare, and people of the state need not panic, but we have to be alert."

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Details regarding Quantity, Tender cost, Earnest Money, Schedule date of tender opening for aforesaid tenders are available on our website at www.energy.rajjasthan.gov.in/jdvnl and also at <http://sppp.rajjasthan.gov.in>

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Advertisement No. 14 / 2022

NIAB, Hyderabad, an autonomous institute under the aegis of Department of Biotechnology, Government of India, is aimed to harness novel and emerging biotechnologies and create knowledge in the cutting edge areas for improving animal health and productivity.

NIAB invites applications from Indian Citizens for filling up the following positions on Direct Recruitment basis, as detailed below:

Positions	Pay Level	No of posts
Senior Manager (A&F)	Level 12	1 (UR)
Scientist - D	Level 12	2 (UR)
Scientist - C	Level 11	1 (SC)
Scientist - B	Level 10	1 (UR)

Please visit NIAB website www.niab.org.in for detailed advertisement and online application form.

Date of commencement of online applications: 20.03.2022
Last date for submitting online applications: 19.04.2022

Sd/- DIRECTOR

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT DIVISION KOPPAL.
Phone No: 08539 - 222318 Fax No: 08539 - 222317
email : eeppwdkpl2@gmail.com

IFT No.PWD:DK:RD:KW-3:2021-22: 5110 Date:19-03-2022

INVITATION FOR SHORT TERM TENDER (IFT)

The Executive Engineer, Public works Department Division Koppal invites tenders from the eligible tenderers as per standard bid documents KW-4 on e-procurement Portal, Head of Account : 3054-03-337-0-05-200 State Highway Maintenance for the Year 2021-22. Two cover Tender procedure as per Rule 28 of the KTPP Act shall be followed. For more information the contractor can contact the under signed during office hours or Phone No. 08539 - 222318 and all informations regarding tenders can be had from website <http://eproc.karnataka.gov.in>. Improvements to Yelburga-Kanakagiri-Gangavathi-Munirabad (SH-130) road Km 26.30 to 27.00 in Yelburga Taluka, Koppal District (Work Indent Nos. 150636) Estimate Amount Rs. 100.00 Lakhs. The tender documents can be downloaded from the above website address, E.M.D. Tender processing fee, Pre bid meeting, Tender period, Last date & time for Tender Queries/clarification, Opening of Financial Bid date as mentioned in e-Proc Portal. Last date & time for receipt of tenders 28-03-2022 Time 16.00, Date and time for opening of technical bid 29-03-2022 Time 16.30.

Sd/- EE, PWD Division, Koppal.

DIPR/Koppal/618/MCA/2021-22

Government of Karnataka
(PWD Division Raichur)
EXECUTIVE ENGINEER
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT
Division Raichur Telephone: 08532-225778 & 234747

E-PROCUREMENT SHORT-TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION (KW-3 & 4)

THESE WORKS ARE GENERAL CONTRACTORS
(1) Notification No & Date: PWD/RDN/TS-4/TN/2021-22/6627 Date:14.03.2022 (2) Name of Works: Raichur District Total 4 Work's Manvi, Deodurga, Ligasugur & Sindhannur taluk Different types of roads, Building and other development works. (3) Amount of works: **Min Rs. 6245916.24 Max Rs. 26783338.85** (4) EMD Amount: **Min Rs. 125000.00 Max Rs. 402000.00** (5) Period (including Mansoon) **Min 2 (Two) Months Max 9 (Nine) Months** (6) Last date and time for Receipt of Tender: **22.03.2022 16:00:00** (7) Date and time for Opening of Tender: **23.03.2022 16:30:00**. For more details visit this website: <https://www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in>

Sd/- Executive Engineer, PWD Division, Raichur

DIP/Raichur/723/MC&A/2021-22

ಹುಬ್ಬಳ್ಳಿ-ಧಾರವಾಡ ಮಹಾನಗರ ಪಾಲಿಕೆ
ಸರ್ ಸಿ.ವಿ.ವಿ. ಕಂಬಳ ರಸ್ತೆ ದೂರವಾಣಿ : 2213898,
2213888 website : www.hdmc.gov.in

ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ಅಭಿಯಂತರರ ಕಛೇರಿ, ಧಾರವಾಡ
ಫೋನ್:-0836/2213838 Email : eedharwad@gmail.com

ನಂ.ಇಚ್.ಎಂಸು/67/07/2020-21 ದಿನಾಂಕ : 21-03-2022

ಇ-ಬಿಡ್ಡರ್ ಅಭಿಸೂಚನೆ

ಸನ್ 2021-22 ನೇ ಸಾಲಿನ ಪಾಲಿಕೆ ಅನುದಾನದಡಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಹುಬ್ಬಳ್ಳಿ ಧಾರವಾಡ ಮಹಾನಗರ ಪಾಲಿಕೆಯ ವ್ಯಾಪ್ತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸಂಗ್ರಹಣೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಪಾರದರ್ಶಕತೆ ಅಭ್ಯಾಸ 1999-2000ರ ಪ್ರಕಾರ ಸ್ಪಂದಿಸಿದ ಬಿಡ್ಡರ್ ಡಾಕ್ಯುಮೆಂಟ್ ನಿಯಮದನ್ವಯ PWD/CPWD/HDMC/ ಇತರೆ ಸರ್ಕಾರಿ ಇಲಾಖೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಇ-ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರಮೆಂಟ್ ಮೋಟರ್ ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಈ ಕೆಳಕಂಡ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳ ಬಿಡ್ಡರ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಭಾಗವಹಿಸಬಹುದು. ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ ವರ್ಗದ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರಿಗೆ ಮೀಸಲಿಟ್ಟ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳು ಇ.ನಂ : 129918(Gen), 129921(Gen), 120932(Gen), 120014(Gen), 125411(Gen), 125412(Gen). ಒಟ್ಟು 06 ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳು ಮೊತ್ತ ರೂ. 309.25 ಲಕ್ಷಗಳಿಗೆ ಬಿಡ್ಡರ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಬಿಡ್ಡರ್ ದಾಖಲೆಗಳನ್ನು ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಇ-ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರಮೆಂಟ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ದಿನಾಂಕ : 22/03/2022 ರಿಂದ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ. ಒಂದು ವೇಳೆ ಅಂತಿಮ ಕೆಲಸದ ವೇಳೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ. ದೂರವಾಣಿ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: 0836-2213838 ರಿಂದ ಮಾಹಿತಿ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದು ಮತ್ತು ಅಂತರ್ಜಾಲದ ಮೂಲಕ ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್ ವಿಳಾಸ <http://www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in> ರಲ್ಲಿ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದು.

ಅ.ನಂ 01 & 04 ರ ಪರಿಗಣ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳಿಗೆ : (1) ಬಿಡ್ಡರ್ ಸ್ವೀಕರಿಸುವ ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ : 06/04/2022 ಸಂಜೆ 5.30 ಗಂಟೆಯವರೆಗೆ (2) ಬಿಡ್ಡರ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ : 07/04/2022 ಸಂಜೆ 05.35 ಗಂಟೆ (2) ಅರ್ಥಿಕ ಬಿಡ್ಡರ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ : 11/04/2022 ಸಂಜೆ 05.35 ಗಂಟೆ

ಅ.ನಂ 05 ಮತ್ತು 06ರ ಪರಿಗಣ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿ (1) ಬಿಡ್ಡರ್ ಸ್ವೀಕರಿಸುವ ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ : 29/03/2022 ಸಂಜೆ 5.30 ಗಂಟೆಯವರೆಗೆ (2) ಬಿಡ್ಡರ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ : 30/03/2022 ಸಂಜೆ 5.35 ಗಂಟೆ (2) ಅರ್ಥಿಕ ಬಿಡ್ಡರ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ : 05/04/2022 ಸಂಜೆ 05.35 ಗಂಟೆ

ಸಹಿ:- ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ಅಭಿಯಂತರರು, ಹುಬ್ಬಳ್ಳಿ-ಧಾರವಾಡ ಮಹಾನಗರ ಪಾಲಿಕೆ, ಧಾರವಾಡ

ವಾಸಾಸಂಇ/ಧಾ/ಎಂಸು/1175/2021-22

Government of Kerala wishes to give expert treatment to children identified with rare diseases like SMA (Spinal Muscular atrophy)

The government of Kerala has taken steps to improve facilities for the diagnosis and management of children with rare diseases

Name of the Bank
State Bank Of India, Trivandrum, City (70028)

Account Number
39229924684

IFSC Code
SBIN0070028

"We request all the philanthropists from the state and within the country to contribute to the noble cause to provide expert medical services to children with rare medical diseases like SMA(Spinal Muscular atrophy)."

We request all the parents of children suffering from rare diseases like SMA to submit an application in a prescribed format given on the website of Arogyakeralam (<https://arogyakeralam.gov.in>)

Applications can be sent to the State Nodal officer, Child health, Office of SMD, DHS Compound, Trivandrum PIN 695035 as registered post or mail scanned copy to this mail ID ch.nhm@kerala.gov.in

For More information Contact DISHA Tele Help line, 1056,104 (toll free) / 0471 - 2552056

GOVERNMENT OF KERALA
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE

State colleges to accommodate Ukraine students

Minister says move will help students continue education till solution is found

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

HEALTH and Medical Education Minister Dr K Sudhakar on Monday announced that the Karnataka government will accommodate around 700 Ukraine-returned medical students in 60 medical colleges across the state, and a high-level committee has been formed to look into their future.

The minister announced this after a meeting with the students at Vidhana Soudha on Monday. Clarifying that the students will not be officially absorbed into the colleges, Dr Sudhakar said this measure is aimed at ensuring that their learning and practice continues till a solution is found. No additional fee will be charged to the students, he said.

The high-level committee consists of the principal secretary of the Medical Education Department; director of medical education; the RGUS Vice-Chancellor, registrar, and directors and deans of some medical colleges.

"The committee will look into all aspects concerning the academic future of the students and submit a report to the State Government. Based

on the report, the government will request the National Medical Council (NMC) and the Union government to take necessary measures to protect the future of the students," he said, adding that after the committee submits the report, all necessary requests will be submitted to the Union government, and the NMC will take a final decision.

During the meeting, the students shared their concerns with the minister, who assured them that the government will take the best possible decision within the existing legal and regulatory framework.

Meanwhile in Haveri, Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai said the government plans to categorise medical colleges as A, B and C categories on the basis of the facilities extended by them. "As the cost of management quota seats is pretty high, our students are looking at alternate proposals to study medicine and are flying abroad. We are considering a proposal to reduce the fees on the basis of the categories of the colleges. The Medical Council of India decides on the issues related to the medical courses and a reconsideration is on in this regard," he said.



Naveen's brother breaks down after the body landed at the Kempegowda International Airport in Bengaluru on Monday; CM Basavaraj Bommai pays his respects; family members get a last glimpse | SHRIRAM BN, D HEMANTH

'A FRIENDLY HUMAN BEING, BRILLIANT IN STUDIES'

G SUBHASH CHANDRA
@ Chalageri (Haveri dist)

HUNDREDS BID ADIEU

CONTINUED FROM P1

Later, the body was taken around the village in a procession, which was followed by Naveen's friends from Nanjangud, classmates from Kharkiv National Medical University and the villagers. Bommai arrived at the village around 11 am and paid his tributes. Thanking Prime Minister Narendra Modi for bringing the body safely to India, Bommai said it was because of good diplomatic relations between India and the two warring countries. Dr Shivamurthy Shivacharya Swamiji of Taralabalu Mutt, Vachanananda Swamiji of Panchamasali Mutt in Harihar, teachers of St Lawrence School at Ranebennur and a host of dignitaries were present. District in-charge minister Arebail Shivaram Hebbar, MPs Shivakumar Udasi and Dr GM Siddeshwara, and others paid respects.

NAVEEN Gyanagoudar was a friendly human being who was good in studies and had a knack of solving difficult problems in any subject, said his friends who came to attend his last rites at Chalageri village on Monday.

Naveen, who was studying medicine, was killed at Kharkiv in Ukraine on March 1 amid war between Ukraine and Russia.

Bharat, who had travelled throughout the night from Nan-

jangud to reach Chalageri for the ceremony, said, "Whenever I had doubts in any of the subjects, Naveen was the one-stop solution. He was like a ready reckoner. He not only went up in academics, but took me along with him."

When Naveen visited Nanjangud, where he attended primary school, in August, he and his friends watched the movie Kurukshetra. "He always got chocolates and other goodies from Ukraine and regaled us with his stories," Bharat said.

Another friend Nagarjun said that Naveen used to put messages regularly on Whatsapp about his safety after the Russia-Ukraine war started. "My mother, who was watching the news, told me about his death. I could not believe it and desperately wished that it was not true. But it was not to be. This loss is unbearable," he added.

Suman, who was Naveen's classmate at the Kharkiv National Medical University, said all his friends are in deep sorrow.

Bommai thanks PM

Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai on Monday called Prime Minister Narendra Modi and thanked him on behalf of Naveen's family for ensuring that Naveen's mortal remains come home. "Naveen's parents were eager to see the face of their son for one last time. The PM has fulfilled their desire," he said.

Naveen sparks interest in body donation

G SUBHASH CHANDRA AND
ARUN KUMAR HURALIMATH
@ Chalageri (Haveri dt)/Hubballi

THE decision to donate the body of Naveen Shekharappa Gyana Goudar for medical research is commendable and has sparked interest in body donation. Even the common man in Chalageri and neighbouring villages are speaking about it, and we have received a good number of inquiries from Ranebennur taluk and parts of Davanagere district, said Dr Veeresh Itagi, Associate Professor, Department of Anatomy, SS Institute of Medical Science and Research Centre, Davanagere.

It was Naveen's father Shek-

harappa who took the decision to donate his body. Naveen was killed in shelling by Russian forces on Kharkiv city on March 1. Unlike foreign countries where the study of medicine involves dissection of mannequins, the Indian system mandates dissection of bodies, but there is a dearth of bodies for studies and research activities, Dr Itagi said.

When the body arrived at the hospital, it was received by Principal Dr Prasad and people from

Naveen's native village Chalageri and Davanagere. The body was transferred into a freezer box at Harihar general hospital and sent to Chalageri in an ambulance for people to pay their last respects.

"Naveen's body was in good condition when the coffin was opened, and this was due to good funeral embalming or surface embalming done at Kharkiv soon after his death," Dr Itagi said. "The body will be completely embalmed on Tuesday

morning." He said Naveen's body was handed over to the college authorities at 5pm Monday.

Explaining the process, Dr Itagi said after six months, Naveen's body will be given for dissection to first-year MBBS students who will be conducting research on the body for a period of five to six years. After this, the body starts to decompose and will be buried on the medical college grounds for two to three years. The body will then be exhumed, the skin and flesh removed and bone mounting work done. It will be given for studies in osteology and MS studies in orthopaedics, Dr Itagi explained.

Naveen's body was in good condition when the coffin was opened, and this was due to good funeral embalming or surface embalming done at Kharkiv soon after his death

Dr Veeresh Itagi, Associate Prof, SS Institute of Medical Science and Research Centre



Karnataka to launch cyber security policy

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

IT/BT and Science and Technology Minister C N Ashwath Narayan announced on Monday that the government will launch a cyber security policy to combat cyber threats.

Speaking on 'Fraud and Forensics: Emerging Trends and Combating Challenges' at the ASSOCHAM 12th Global Summit, the minister said the policy will be aimed at protecting IT assets of Karnataka like the state's data centre, wide-area network and e-governance applications.

The move aims to encourage and ensure the sustainability of the digital economy and unlock its potential for innovation. "Just as new and emerging technologies present boundless opportunities for us, they also present a new generation of threats that we must adapt to meet. According to data released by the Reserve Bank of India, commercial banks reported frauds worth Rs 1.38 trillion in 2020-21. There is an emerging trend of private sector banks reporting a larger number of frauds related to card and internet banking," he said.

He also highlighted the need for internet users to be educated on potential scams and frauds. "To ensure the success of the Digital India programme, the system needs to have a two-pronged strategy of educating users about digital technology risks and building technical expertise in both the government as well as the private sector," he said.

Tainted officials can no longer become panchayat members

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

THE Karnataka Gram Swaraj and Panchayat Raj (Amendment) Bill, which was tabled in the Assembly on Monday, proposes to disqualify a person from becoming a member of gram, taluk and zilla panchayats if they were dismissed or suspended from service for irregularities or other reasons while working under state or central governments or cooperative societies. Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Minister KS Eshwarappa tabled the bill.

According to the bill, the amendment will disqualify a person from being member of

any panchayat if he or she was subject to compulsory retirement, or dismissal from service, from any central or state government departments or cooperative societies. The bill also proposed to disqualify those who were removed from the post of chairperson and member of any cooperative societies.

The amendment also proposes to limit the population for taluk panchayat elections. Taluk panchayats with a rural population of more than two lakh will have one elected member for a population not more than 12,000. For a population of one to two lakh, there will be one elected member for every 10,000 popu-

lation. A population not exceeding 50,000 will have nine elected members and taluks with less than 50,000 populations will have a minimum of seven elected members, the bill proposes. However, Chikkamagaluru (excluding Tarikere, Kaduru and Ajampura taluks), Uttara Kannada and Kodagu districts will have one elected member each for a population between 18,000 and 25,000.

The bill also proposes appointing a minister in-charge of the district concerned as chairperson of the District Planning Committee, and appointing the mayor or president of the city corporation or municipalities concerned as vice-chairperson of the committee.

while responding to a question by BJP MLC M K Pranesh.

Nagesh said there has been a lot of discussions within and outside the council on the need for moral education in schools.

"All of us are aware of the need for introducing Bhagwad Gita and many have also expressed their views on it. The government will constitute a committee, discuss with the CM and others and think about introducing it," the minister said. Pranesh said the State Gov-

ernment should introduce the Bhagwad Gita in the schools from the 2022-23 academic year. In Gujarat, the government has introduced the Bhagwad Gita for classes 6 to 12, he said.

On Saturday, Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai had stated that the inclusion of Bhagavad Gita in school curriculum is being considered as part of moral education and a decision will be taken after discussion with the Education Minister.

Panel to look into Gita lessons in schools

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

PRIMARY and Secondary Education Minister B C Nagesh on Monday informed the Legislative Council that the Education Department will constitute a committee to look into the introduction of Bhagwad Gita in school textbooks.

The department will consider the introduction of Bhagwad Gita in schools after holding discussions with the Chief Minister and experts as many felt the need for taking such a measure, the minister said

Bill passed to punish inmates using mobiles

The Assembly on Monday passed The Karnataka Prisons (Amendment) Bill, 2022, which was tabled last Thursday to put a lid on the illegal use of cellphones and other communication devices on the premises of prisons. The new law will have a scope to punish the prisoner with not less than three years of jail, which may extend up to five years along with a penalty.

Kanteerava stadium to get sports museum

Sports and Youth Empowerment Minister K Narayana Gowda said a sports museum will be set up in Kanteerava Stadium. After the discussion on sports facilities in the state in the council on Monday, the minister said preparations are on to establish the museum, which will be the first of its kind in the country. He added that 15 sport hostels for women have already been set up.



IN THE HOUSE

Land losers to get bigger relief

The State Government on Monday passed the Karnataka Industrial Areas Development (Amendment) Bill, 2022, to give higher compensation to those who give their land for government projects. Industries Minister Murugesh Nirani had tabled the bill last Thursday. The amendment to the Karnataka Industrial Areas Development Act, 1966, (Karnataka Act 18 of 1966) is to provide fair compensation and bring transparency in the Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act.

Bill soon to regulate contract staffing

Labour Minister Shivaram Hebbar told the Legislative Council on Monday that the government will introduce a bill to regulate contract-based employment to curb harassment by employers. Replying after a discussion on minimum wages and basic facilities for labourers, the minister said it has come to the notice of the government that some companies are paying low wages to contract workers and not providing PF and ESI facilities. "I have already discussed this with the CM and a decision will be taken soon," he added.

Brinda: SC should redress concerns over hijab order

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Mangaluru

CPI(M) politburo member Brinda Karat on Monday termed the Karnataka High Court verdict banning hijab in schools as "unfortunate", and said the Supreme Court should redress the issue. Commenting on the ban, she said she felt ashamed when girls, who are breaking barriers to get educated, were asked to remove their headscarves.

She said the CPI(M) feels the entire controversy over hijab was "manufactured by the ruling BJP to divert people's attention from its failures". She sought to know what business local MLAs have in College Development Committees (CDC), while parents, teachers and students manage such committees elsewhere. Condemning Udupi MLA Raghupathi Bhat for making provocative statements over the hijab, she sought to know what action the State government and High Court had initiated against him.

Karat also said that the girls and their parents should decide whether they should wear a veil or not, and nobody should force them. "But there are some forces within the Muslim community that pressurise girls to wear the scarf. PFI and SDPI threaten to boycott them if they don't



wear the hijab," she alleged.

Addressing a 'Souhardathaa Samaveshha' (Harmony Convention) organised by the Dakshina Kannada unit of CPI(M) in the wake of a slew of communal incidents in the state, Karat cautioned the people of the country to be wary of the RSS and BJP ideology, stating that it does not affect only minorities. "It affects each and every one of us. It changes the very nature of the Indian republic by putting the country under a communal and authoritarian regime," she said.

More than external enemies, India faces grave threat to its harmony, unity, diversity and Constitution from the ideology of the RSS and BJP, she added.

Commenting on the anti-conversion bill, Brinda said if BR Ambedkar was alive today, he would have been jailed by this law.

BJP has no respect for Lingayat leaders, says AAP leader

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Belagavi

HITTING out at the BJP, the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) leader Rajkumar Topannavar said there is no respect for Lingayat workers or leaders in the saffron party in Belagavi which forced him to quit recently. Several active workers from the community have suffered a raw deal in the allotment of tickets in the local elections and holding of top positions in recent times, he said.

Speaking to media persons in Belagavi on Monday, he highlighted the way the BJP neglected good leaders from the Lingayat community like former corporator Deepak Jamkhandi, who was denied a ticket to contest the city corporation election and Ghulappa Hosamani, who was sacked as chairman of Belagavi Urban Development Authority (BUDA).

AP House panel to probe Pegasus charge: Speaker

Bengal CM's claims need in-depth inquiry, says finance minister

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Vijayawada

ANDHRA PRADESH Assembly Speaker Tammisetti Seetharam on Monday announced that a House Committee will be constituted on the allegations that the previous TDP government had procured Pegasus. The decision comes following request from the treasury benches after a short discussion on the "Pegasus controversy". The members of the Committee will be announced shortly, the Speaker said.

Concluding the short discussion on Pegasus, Finance Minister Buggana Rajendranath said in the view of the startling claims of West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee last week that Pegasus was procured by TDP regime for Rs 25 crore, there is need for an in-depth investigation and requested the Speaker to constitute a House Committee.

He said former intelligence chief AB Venkateswara Rao,

who is presently under suspension, was involved in proposing UAV and Aerostats worth Rs 25 crore and it happened during the same time when the Pegasus deal was said to have happened. "Claims of Mamata Banerjee have raised several doubts and there is a need for an in-depth inquiry," he stressed and added that it seems to have been procured through illegal means.

The finance minister said Venkateswara Rao episode coincides with the time Pegasus was said to have been procured by the TDP government. He said as per the complaint lodged against him on March 18, 2021 in Vijayawada, the former intelligence chief has proposed to DGP for procurement of Unmanned Aerial Vehicles and Aerostats, by-passing the technical evaluation committee. The proposal was made on August 30, 2017. According to him, the same was forwarded to the Principal Secretary, home, and it was decided to procure through State Trading Corporation.



'SPYWARE NOT USED'

VIJAYAWADA: Suspended IPS officer AB Venkateswara Rao, who was the intelligence chief during the TDP regime, on Monday asserted that the intelligence wing or any other government department had not procured or used Pegasus spyware. He said the people are in a state of fear over the ongoing development and the state government must clear the air on the Pegasus issue. "As the chief of intelligence during the previous regime, I assure that no government department had purchased the spyware till April 2019. I don't know what happened after May 2019," he said.

KCR visualising front to alter nation's course

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Hyderabad

TELANGANA Chief Minister K Chandrababhan Naidu on Monday asserted that he would play a pivotal role in the emergence of an alternative to the present BJP dispensation at the national level, come what may.

Speaking to the media at Telangana Bhavan, he said: "Mark my words. KCR will be playing a very important role. The new formation that I am visualising

is something different from the popular perception of an alternative front. It is one that would change the direction of the country as it would usher in structural changes in the body politic. The process has already begun," he said.

Rao was non-committal when asked who would take care of the state affairs if he is busy shaping his idea. "The TRS government would be in the state even if I might be moving around," he said, dropping



Telangana CM addresses media persons at TRS Bhavan in Hyderabad

ping subtle hints that he might pass on the baton to his son and MAUD Minister KT Rama

Rao. The CM, while lashing out at the BJP, said that he was "sorry the BJP could not deliver in the last eight years".

Rao said that it is about time the people reject the Centre's policies. "There is a need to sensitise people on the harmful effects if BJP continues to be in power. The BJP had promised two crore jobs but had done nothing. TRS would launch an agitation, demanding 15 lakh vacancies be filled up in the central government," he said.



Renowned drummer Sivamani (R) performs during the folk art festival 'Namma Ooru Thiruvizha' at Island Ground in Chennai on Monday | DEBADATTA MALLICK

Spurned youth slits girl's throat

ENS @ Nellore

A YOUTH was arrested for allegedly slitting a 17-year-old girl's throat at her residence in Venkatagiri town after she reportedly spurned his advances, police said on Monday. The girl is out of danger, according to SVR Rula Hospital sources.

The accused R Chenchu Krishna, (21), is from College Mitta in Venkatagiri town, Nellore SP Ch Vijaya Rao said, adding that he had been stalking the second year intermediate student.

"The accused had a grudge against the girl for rejecting his advances. Around 7.45 am, Krishna entered the girl's house when she was alone, slit her throat and fled," he said. Krishna was nabbed in less than three hours by special teams.



Nellore SP Ch Vijaya Rao showing the knife which the accused used

EXPRESS READ

B'luru-bound flights diverted to Chennai due to heavy winds

BENGALURU: Heavy winds in and around the Kempegowda International Airport (KIA) area on Monday resulted in seven incoming domestic flights being diverted to the Chennai international airport and brought flight operations to a halt for around 50 minutes. A total of 10 departing flights from Bengaluru were also delayed by more than an hour. A spokesperson of the airport operation of Bangalore International Airport Limited said, "Flight operations were impacted between 3.59 pm and 4.48 pm. Flights from Goa, Belagavi, Mumbai, Kolkata, Jaipur, Shirdi and Delhi of various airlines were diverted to Chennai airport." No international flights were scheduled for arrival or departure during this period.

Open lake swimming to be part of triathlon

BELAGAVI: 'Super Being 2022 Triathlon and Duathlon, a high endurance sporting event which involves swimming, cycling and running, will be held in Belagavi on March 27, said Girish Doddannavar, Managing Director of ThoughtFlow Educational Trust. Speaking to media persons here in Belagavi on Monday, he said, "This is an event being organised by ThoughtFlow Educational trust with the support from Belgaum Peddlers Club and Belgaum Aquatics Club. It will be held on March 27, Sunday, with a pre-event expo on March 26. So far, 152 participants have registered their names, while we expect over 200 participants from Karnataka, Maharashtra, Goa, Telangana and Andhra to register.

Family faces boycott over land dispute

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Mysuru

A family, which stood against the injustice they allegedly faced from several villagers over a land dispute, is now facing social boycott.

The village heads have decided to impose a fine of Rs 3,000 on those who converse with the family members.

This incident has been reported from Kontayyana Hundu, a village in Nanjangud taluk, which is in Varuna as-

sembly constituency represented by Yathindra Siddaramaiah, son of opposition leader Siddaramaiah.

According to a video of family members of Guru Mallappa, Parashivappa and Mahadevappa, which has gone viral on social media platforms, the family had approached the police station over a land dispute and had complained against a few village leaders for trespassing on their farm land.

Enraged by their act, the vil-

lage leaders had threatened them with social boycott and over the years, they were being denied their rights and had allegedly told all the villagers to impose Rs 3,000 fine if any of them converse with the family members.

Over the several months, they are being denied essential things in shops in the village. The family demanded intervention of police or officials from the district administration to help them come out of this social boycott.

RAIL WHEEL FACTORY
Yelahanka, BANGALORE - 560 064
Website: www.rwf.indianrailways.gov.in

Tender Notice No. RWF/N/21-22/20 Dated: 18/03/2022

E-TENDERS: On Behalf of the President of India, the Dy. CHIEF ENGINEER invites electronic tender for the following works online through the website http://www.reps.gov.in (Works)

Sl. No.	Tender No / Description	Estimated Value in ₹
1	W.496/RWF/YNK/986 - Providing protecting coating using Interpenetrating Polymer Network Coating System (IPNe) for RCC/PC structures at old and new PC Bay of RWF.	8122000.00
2	W.496/RWF/YNK/987 - Sub Work-1: Construction of Stores Shed in lieu of Existing Godown annexed to Ward-21/GSD opposite to EMMS inside Factory premises of RWF. Sub Work-2: Provision of New Water Supply Line inside Factory Premises of RWF.	5297756.39

Closing Date & Time: 18/04/2022 at 11.00 hrs.

This tender notice can be viewed on our website - www.rwf.indianrailways.gov.in
Dy. CHIEF ENGINEER

PSPCL Punjab State Power Corporation Limited
Regd. Office: PSEB Head Office, The Mall, Patiala - 147001.
Corporate Identity No.: U40109PB2010SGC033813, Website: www.pspcl.in
Office of Chief Engineer/Fuel,
Ph: 0175-2219883, Fax: 0175-2215897, Email Id: ce.fuel@pspcil@gmail.com
(Contact Number : 96461-15901)

Tender Enquiry No. 09/C/Fuel/FC-376 Dated: 17.03.2022

Dy.Chief Engineer/Fuel-2 Q/o Chief Engineer, Room No. 411, 4th Floor, Multistorey Building, PSEB Head Office, Punjab State Power Corporation Ltd., Patiala-147001, Punjab invites E-tender for Transportation of Raw Coal by Road cum Rail Made from the Coal Mines of Central Coalfields Limited (CCL) to PSPCL Thermal Power Stations namely GHPP Lehra Mohabbat and GGSSTP Ropar as per requirement of PSPCL. For detailed NIT & Tender Specification please refer to <https://eproc.punjab.gov.in> from 21.03.2022 (9.00 AM onwards).

Note:- Corrigendum and addendum, if any, will be published online at <https://eproc.punjab.gov.in>

91/C-7 V22-3/21/2022
76155/12/13/2021 V12895

PSPCL Punjab State Power Corporation Limited
Regd. Office: PSEB Head Office, The Mall, Patiala-147001
Corporate Identity No.: U40109PB2010SGC033813, Website: www.pspcl.in
Contact Number: 96461-01251, Email id: se-it1@pspcil.in

Tender Enquiry No. 265/DIT-1054/Vol-2 Dated: 21.03.2022

Superintending Engineer/IT (A&PM), Ground Floor, 7-Storey Building, PSPCL Head Office, The Mall, Patiala invites e-tender for Providing 4G (LTE/VoLTE) mobile phone services in Punjab State Power Corporation Limited under corporate plan.

For detailed NIT & Tender specifications please refer to <https://eproc.punjab.gov.in> from 21.03.2022, 1:00 pm onwards.

Note:- Corrigendum and addendum, if any, will be published online at <https://eproc.punjab.gov.in>

95/C-72/22-3/21/2022
76155/12/17/2021 V12918

ALAGAPPA UNIVERSITY
[Accredited with A+ grade by NAAC (CGPA:3.64) in the Third Cycle, Graded as Category-4 University and Granted Autonomy by MHRD-U/GC]
KARAIKUDI - 630 003

Ref: DDE/DE12/Tender/Printing of Course Materials/2022 dt.21.03.2022

Tender Notice

Sealed Tenders are invited from reputed publishers for printing of course materials for various programmes being offered by DDE. Filled in Tenders shall reach on or before 25.04.2022 upto 3.00 p.m. The details are available in www.tenders.tn.gov.in and University website www.alagappauniversity.ac.in

Place : Karaikudi Prof. C. Sekar
Date : 21.03.2022 DIPRI/1422/TENDER/2022 REGISTRAR i/c
"செந்தாமன் கூட்டுத் தொழில்நுட்ப அமைதித்தொழில், சாத்தனம் புரிந்து எளிதில் பணம் பெறும்"

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the general public that I have lost the original Rectification deed dated 27.01.1994 executed by The Bangalore Development Authority in favour of Sri. R. Krishnappa pertaining to the site bearing No.2135 situated at HSR Layout, Sector-1, Bangalore, while travelling between Karamangala and HSR Layout on 03.03.2022 in this regard I have already lodged complaint on 21.03.2022 in the HSR Layout Police station, if any person/s finds the same please hand over the same to me or to the HSR Layout police station.

Address Mr. M. KRISHNA REDDY
S/o. Late. Muni Reddy, R/at No.1144,
21st 'A' Cross, 14th Main Road,
HSR Layout, Sector-3, Bangalore-102.
M: 9845122771 Date: 21.03.2022

ಪಟ್ಟಿಕಾ ಪಕ್ಕಟೆಸ್

ಪೆನು: Mr. Dula Tuddu@ Devanand Tuddu ಪೆನು: 37 ಪೆನು, ಲಿಂಗ: ಗಂಡು, ಎತ್ತರ: 5.5 ಅಡಿಗಳು, ಕೂದಲು: ಕಪ್ಪು, ಕೂದಲು ಇದ್ದು ಗಡ್ಡ ಮೀಸೆ ಇರುತ್ತದೆ, ಮುಖ: ಗುಂಡು ಮುಖ, ಕಪ್ಪು ಮೈ ಬಣ್ಣ, ಉದ್ದ ಮೂಗು, ಕುರುಚಲು ಗಡ್ಡ ಮತ್ತು ಮೀಸೆ ಇರುತ್ತದೆ, ಮೈಕಟ್ಟು: ಸಾಧಾರಣ ಮೈಕಟ್ಟು, ಧರಿಸಿದ ಉಡುಪುಗಳು: ಕಪ್ಪು ಬಣ್ಣದ ಅರ್ಧ ತೋಳಿನ ಟೀ ಶರ್ಟ್ ಮತ್ತು ಬಣ್ಣ ಬಣ್ಣದ ಬೇನ್ಸ್ ಸ್ವಾಂಟ್ ಧರಿಸುತ್ತಾನೆ, ಕುರುಚಲುಗಳು: ಬಲ ತೋಡೆಯ ಹತ್ತಿರ ಮತ್ತು ಪಕ್ಕಟೆಯ ಬಳಿ ಹಳೆಯ ಗಾಯದ ಗುರುತು ಇರುತ್ತದೆ, ಮಾನಸಿಕ: ನಾರ್ಮಲ್, ಮಾತನಾಡುವ ಭಾಷೆ: ಹಿಂದಿ, ಸಂಧಾಲಿ, ಬೆಂಗಾಲಿ, ಎನ್ಯಾನ್ಯಾಸ್.....

ಸಂಪರ್ಕ: ಶಿವಾಜಿನಗರ ಪೊಲೀಸ್ ಠಾಣೆ 080-22942597, 9480801219

DEUTSCHE BANK AG
Appendix IV [Rule 8 (1)] POSSESSION NOTICE

Whereas, the undersigned being the authorized officer of Deutsche Bank AG, India ("Bank") under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(12) read with rule 9 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a demand notice dated 04-12-2021 calling upon the borrower M/s. R J Distributors, Mr. C R Arun Gowda, Mr. C R Kiran Gowda, M/s. Park View Bar, Restaurant and Mrs. Jayanti ("Borrower"), to repay the outstanding amount as mentioned in the notice being Rs. 3,63,36,695.87 (Rupees Three Crore Sixty Three Lakh Thirty Six Thousand Six Hundred Ninety Five and Eighty Seven Paise Only), within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

The Borrower having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken Symbolic Possession of the property described herein below in exercise of the powers conferred on him/her under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with rule 9 of the said Act on this 17th day of March of the year 2022.

The Borrower in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of the Bank for an amount of Rs. 3,63,36,695.87 (Rupees Three Crore Sixty Three Lakh Thirty Six Thousand Six Hundred Ninety Five and Eighty Seven Paise Only), and interest thereon.

Description of the Immovable Properties

(i) Schedule All the piece and parcel of the Property bearing House List No. 20, Khatha No. 5, situated at Itanadu Village, Uttarahalli Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, Bangalore, now within BBMP limits, measuring East to West 43 Ft and North to South 30 Ft and bounded on: East by Property no.16, West by: 20 Feet Road, North by: Property no.21, South by: Property no.19

(ii) Schedule All the piece and parcel of the EASTERN PORTION of the Property bearing Site No. 5, Municipal No.6/1-17, situated at 50 Feet Road, Muneshwara Block, Avalahalli, Banashankari 3rd Stage, Bangalore, now within BBMP limits, measuring East to West 30 Ft and North to South 60 Ft and bounded on: East by: Others Property, West by: Others Property, North by: Others Property, South by: 50 feet road.

(iii) Also Hypothecation charge on Stock and Book Debts in favour of Deutsche Bank AG.

Date: 22/03/2022
Place: Bengaluru

Pankaj Gotawat
Sd/- Authorized Officer,
Deutsche Bank AG.

IDBI BANK
Retail Recovery, 3rd Floor, IDBI House, # 58, Mission Road, Bengaluru - 560 027.
Ph: 080-61451322/24/25/26
Email: recovery.bangalore@idbi.co.in

POSSESSION NOTICE
Under Rule 8 (1)

A/c No's: 0551675100005692 & 0551675100007313

Whereas the Undersigned being the Authorized Officer of the IDBI Bank Limited under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (54 of 2002) and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(12) read with rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, issued a Demand Notice dated 17.12.2021 calling upon the borrowers and Legal Heir Smt. Leela Devi W/o Late Shri. Omprakash Kumawat and Shri. Praveen Kumar Kumawat S/o Late Shri. Omprakash Kumawat (Legal Heir of Late Shri. Omprakash Kumawat) to repay the amount mentioned in the Demand notice being Rs.62,12,268.88 (Rupees Sixty Two Lakh Twelve Thousand Two Hundred Sixty Eight and Eighty Eight Paise Only) as on 10-11-2021 + Applicable interest and charges thereon within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said Notice.

The borrower having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken Physical Possession of the Property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under sub-section (4) of section 13 of Act read with rule 8 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 on this 17th day of March, 2022.

The borrower in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the Property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of the IDBI Bank Limited, for an amount of Rs.62,12,268.88 (Rupees Sixty Two Lakh Twelve Thousand Two Hundred Sixty Eight and Eighty Eight Paise Only) as on 10-11-2021 + Applicable interest and charges thereon.

The borrower's attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

SCHEDULE OF THE PROPERTY

Schedule-A : All that piece and parcel of the Property bearing Site No. 366, TMC Khatha No. 2739 situated at Nagadevanahalli Village, Kengeri Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk now comes under the jurisdiction of BBMP, Bangalore measuring East to West 40 feet and North to South 23 feet, and bounded as follows: East by: Site No. 365, West by: 30 feet road, North by: Site No. 380 South by: Remaining portion of the same site.

Date : 17.03.2022
Place : Bengaluru

Sd/- Authorised Officer
IDBI Bank Limited

NATIONAL SC-ST HUB SCALFA KITA PEHCHAAN

NATIONAL SC-ST HUB SCHEME NOTIFICATION

"Launch of Special Credit Linked Capital Subsidy Scheme (SCLCSS) for SC/ST"

The National SC-ST Hub (NSSH) Scheme is an Initiative of the Ministry of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises, Govt. of India, having the objective of providing professional support to the SC/ST entrepreneurs for enhancing their participation in public procurement. The National Small Industries Corporation Ltd. (NSIC) is the implementing Agency. There are various components under NSSH under which assistance is provided to the SC/ST entrepreneurs for their capacity building and market linkage.

Under the SCLCSS component, **25% subsidy** is provided for procurement of Plant & Machinery and equipment through institutional credit to the eligible Micro / Small Enterprises of manufacturing sector owned by SC/ST entrepreneurs.

Now the Ministry of MSME, Govt. of India has included the SERVICE SECTOR also for Special Credit Linked Capital Subsidy Scheme (SCLCSS).

Therefore all the SC/ST entrepreneurs, both Manufacturing and Service sectors can avail 25% subsidy under SCLCSS by submitting their application to the concerned Prime Lending Institutions (banks from which Term Loan has been availed for procurement of plant & machinery after 15.11.2021) in the prescribed format within the prescribed timelines. The timelines shall be notified for each quarter of FY 2021-22 on www.scsthub.in

To know about other benefits including SCLCSS for the SC/ST entrepreneurs, please visit NSSH website www.scsthub.in.

National SC-ST Hub Cell
National Small Industries Corporation Ltd.
NSIC Bhawan, Okhla Industrial Estate, New Delhi-110020
Toll Free No. 1800-11-1954, E-mail : nsshsupport@nsic.co.in

WITHOUT HARD WORK, NOTHING GROWS BUT WEEDS GORDON HICKLEY

DEUTSCHE BANK AG

Appendix IV [Rule 8 (1)] POSSESSION NOTICE

Whereas, the undersigned being the authorized officer of Deutsche Bank AG, India ("Bank") under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(12) read with rule 9 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a demand notice dated 06/12/2021 calling upon the borrower **M/s. Verve Fabrics, Mrs. Aparna Khemka, Mr. Vikram Khemka and Mrs. Veena Khemka ("Borrower")**, to repay the outstanding amount as mentioned in the notice being **Rs. 4,32,74,645.76 (Rupees Four Crore Thirty Two Lakh Seventy Four Thousand Six Hundred Forty Five and Seventy Six Paise Only)**, within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

The Borrower having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken Symbolic Possession of the property described herein below in exercise of the powers conferred on him/her under Section 13(4) of the said act read with rule 9 of the said act on this **17th day of March of the year 2022**. The Borrower in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of the Bank for an amount of **Rs. 4,32,74,645.76 (Rupees Four Crore Thirty Two Lakh Seventy Four Thousand Six Hundred Forty Five and Seventy Six Paise Only)**, and interest thereon.

Description of the Immovable Property

(I) All that piece and parcel of immovable property comprising of land together with ground and first floor residential dwelling house thereon with fixtures and fittings presently bearing No. 307, Sector VI, situated at Hosur-Sanjarpur Road extension, Bangalore, measuring East to West 19.10 mtrs., and North to South 12.19 mtrs., and bounded on the East by: Road, West by: Site No. 310, North by: Site No. 308, South by: Site No. 306. (II) Also Hypothecation charge on Stock and Book Debts in favour of Deutsche Bank AG.

Date: 22/03/2022

Place: Bengaluru

Pankaj Gotawat
Sd/- Authorized Officer,
Deutsche Bank A.G.BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE
Office of the Executive Engineer, Project South, South Zonal Office
Complex, 9th Main, 9th Cross, Jayanagar 2nd Block, Bengaluru-11

No.EEP(S)/E-Proc/21/21-22 Date:21.03.2022

INVITATION FOR TENDER (IFT)
(Through GOK e-Procurement Portal only) (Two Cover System)

The Executive Engineer, Project-South Division, invites tenders from eligible Tenderers for the work detailed in the table below:

S.I. No.	Name of Work	Amount put to tender (Rs in Lakhs)	EMD (Rs.)
1	Shifting of Inert Waste from Chikkanagangamala Waste Processing Plant.	200.00	3,00,000/-

Period of completion (Including Monsoon): **3 Months.** 1) Tender documents may be downloaded from e-procurement website. 2) Pre bid meeting : **28.03.2022 at 03.00 p.m.** 3) Last date and time for receipt of tenders: **05.04.2022 upto 04.00 p.m.** 4) Date of opening of technical bid: **07.04.2022 at 04.30 p.m.** 5) Date of opening of financial bid: **11.04.2022 at 04.00 p.m.** Further details can be accessed from GoK e-procurement website: <https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in> or office of the undersigned.

Sd/- Executive Engineer, Project-South Division.

STAY PROTECTED FROM COVID-19, NO CARELESSNESS UNTIL THERE IS A CURE.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, DEPARTMENT OF SPACE -
U.R. RAO SATELLITE CENTRE
CONSTRUCTION & MAINTENANCE GROUP
HAL Airport Road, Bangalore - 560 017
(Phone: 080 25084177, 4184, 4156)

BRIEF E-TENDER NOTICE

On behalf of the President of India, item-rate tenders are invited for the following work:

Sl.No.	Description	Details
1	Name of work	Providing Waterproofing Treatment over the Roof of AITF-1 Building at ISITE Campus, URSC, Marathahalli, Bengaluru-37.
2	E-Tender Notice No.	URSC/C&MG/GTN/36/2021-22 dated: 18.03.2022
3	Estimated cost put to tender	₹ 55.60 Lakhs
4	Tender Document details	E-Tender
5	Period of completion	THREE MONTHS
6	Earnest Money Deposit (EMD)	₹ 1,11,200/- valid for 180 days
7	Period during which the tender document can be downloaded.	From 09.30 hrs on 22.03.2022 to 16.30 hrs on 04.04.2022
8	Bid clarification	From 10.30 hrs on 22.03.2022 to 17.00 hrs on 05.04.2022
9	Last date of reply to Bid Clarification	Up to 17.00 hrs. on 06.04.2022
10	Last date and time for receipt of tenders	Up to 14.30 hrs. on 07.04.2022
11	Due date and time of opening of tenders	14.30 hrs onwards on 07.04.2022

Interested tenderers may please refer Detailed Notice Inviting E-Tender (NIET) for eligibility criteria and other details along with Hindi version in website: www.isro.gov.in and download the tender documents from www.tenderwizard.com/ISRO. Sd/- Group Director (C&MG)

City Corporation Office, Davanagere.
No.: DCC:EE1:E.Tender:45:2021-22 Date: 18.03.2022

Tender Notice (Through e-Procurement Portal)

Tender is invited in single/double cover system through e-procurement portal for 01 work – under Palike General Fund for the year 2021-22 (3rd Call), 10 works – under Palike General Fund for the year 2021-22 (2nd Call), 05 works – under Palike General Fund for the year 2021-22 – Total 16 Nos. of works. Eligible Contractors/Agencies/Suppliers can participate through e-procurement portal website www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in Further details can be obtained through website of Mahanagara Palike www.davanagerecity.mrc.gov.in and e-procurement helpline phone nos.: +91-80 46010000, +91-80 68948777.

(1) Date & Time of Pre-Bid Meeting: 29.03.2022 at 11.00 hrs. (Only for works of above Rs. 100 lakhs) (2) Last date and time for obtaining information regarding the tender: 04.04.2022, 11.00 hrs. (2) Last date and time for submission of tender: 04.04.2022, 17.00 hrs. (3) Date and time of opening Technical Bid: 06.04.2022, 11.00 hrs.

Short-Term Works: (1) Last date and time for obtaining information regarding the tender: 29.03.2022, 16.30 hrs. (2) Last date and time for submission of tender: 29.03.2022, 17.00 hrs. (3) Date and time of opening Tender: 31.03.2022, 11.00 hrs.

Sd/- Commissioner,
City Corporation, Davanagere.

MANDYA DIST. CO-OPERATIVE MILK
PRODUCER'S SOCIETIES UNION LTD.
E-Mail: manmulpurchase@gmail.com, Tele: 08232-274571

IFT NO: MMU/PUR/E-Procure/Tender-23/2021-22 Date: 19.03.2022

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Through E-procurement portal only)

Mandya Milk Union Ltd. invites e-Tenders for (1) Supply Erection and Fixing of LED Name Board for a. Mega Dairy Powder Plant -1 No b. Mega Dairy Main Gate-1 Nos, (2) Supply Erection and commissioning of 12 Volts DC Batteries For 160 KVA UPS Buy Back basis -34 Nos, (3) Providing of 1500 KVA Mobile D.G Set with acoustic Enclosure on Monthly hiring basis -1 Job (4) Biennial Rate Contract for Pest Control Services at MANMUL-1 Job (5) 400AB Type Air Heater Inner Shell Replacement And Fixing of New Inner Shell To Air Heater Generator And Repair Work-1 No (6) Biennial Maintenance & Service contract of Sump Tank and over head Water tank installed at BMC Centers-225 Nos. Interested tenderers may please refer detail notice inviting tender for eligibility criteria & other details. Tenderers can download documents from: 21.03.2022, Last date of submission of tender: 08.04.2022 at 17.00 hrs, Date of opening of Technical tender: 11.04.2022 after 16.00 hrs & Commercial Bid opening will be intimated. Interested Tenderer's may download bidding documents from the e-procurement portal <https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in/> website: www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in and also contact helpline No: 080-25501227/25501216, e-mail: hpelpdesk.blr@intarvo.com. For more information Contact Manager (Purchase)-Mob No:9513888247.

Sd/-
MANAGING DIRECTOR

Bharat Bank

Bharat Co-op. Bank (Mumbai) Ltd.
भारत सहकारी बँक (मुंबई) लि.

POSSESSION NOTICE

WHEREAS

The undersigned being the Authorized Officer of Bharat Co-operative Bank (Mumbai) Ltd., under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued Demand Notice dated 27.12.2021 calling upon the Principal Borrower - **Mr. Sanjeet Vijaykumar Raut** to repay the amount mentioned in the notice being **Rs.73,20,505/- (Rupees Seventy Three Lakh Twenty Thousand Five Hundred and Five)** as on 26.12.2021 within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

The said borrower having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the said borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken symbolic possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on the undersigned under section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said Rules on this 16th day of March 2022.

The said borrower in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the said property and any dealings with the said property will be subject to the charge of Bharat Co-operative Bank (Mumbai) Ltd. for an amount of Rs.73,20,505/- (Rupees Seventy Three Lakh Twenty Thousand Five Hundred and Five) as on 26.12.2021 together with further interest thereon, less amount paid thereafter if any.

The borrower's attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPERTY

Fiat No. 202, in the 2nd Floor, measuring 1340 Sq.Ft Super Built up area containing of **2 Bedrooms**, hall, dining and Kitchen with proportionate common area and facilities, together with **one car parking** bearing No.04 in the Stilt floor of the building constructed in multistoried building known as **"PARTH KRISTAL"**, constructed over property bearing Corporation No.41 & 41/1, Ward No 80, situated at **Devaraj Mudaliar Street, Bhatnagar, Bangalore-560042**, land measuring 13932sq.ft & 450sq.ft respectively along with 3.67% undivided share in the land (which is equivalent to 528sq.ft in the said land area) owned by **Mr. Sanjeet Vijaykumar Raut**, S/o Late Vijay Kumar Pandurang Raut and building bounded by:

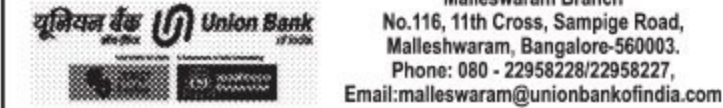
East : Shree Complex, West : Private Property, North : Property belongs to Narayan Chetty Garden, South: Road.

Sd/- Dy. General Manager and Authorised Officer,

Bharat Co-operative Bank (Mumbai) Ltd.

Place: Bangalore No. 100, Money Terrace, K.H. Road, Bangalore-560 027

Date: 16.03.2022 Tel: K.H. Road Branch: 080-22121066, 22291942

Mallewaram Branch
No.116, 11th Cross, Sampige Road,
Mallewaram, Bangalore-560003.
Phone: 080 - 22958228/22958227,
Email: mallewaram@unionbankofindia.com

Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Property

E-Auction Sale Notice for 15 days Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to rule 8(6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rule, 2002

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the symbolic possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of Union Bank of India (secured Creditor) will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is" and "whatever there is" on the date mentioned below, for recovery of dues as mentioned hereunder to Union Bank of India from the below mentioned Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s). The Reserve Price and the Earnest Money Deposit are also mentioned hereunder:

Name and address of the Secured Creditor : Union Bank of India, Mallewaram Branch, No.116, 11th Cross, Sampige Road, Mallewaram, Bangalore-560003.
Name and address of the Borrower, Co-ApPLICANT and Guarantor: 1) Borrowers: (1) **Ramesh Bomme Gowda** No.539, 12th Cross, 5th Main RMV 2nd Stage, Dollars Colony, Bengaluru-560094, (2) **Ramya Ramesh Gowda**, No.539, 12th Cross, 5th Main RMV 2nd Stage, Dollars Colony, Bengaluru-560094.

Amount due: Rs. 2,58,12,293/- as on 25.01.2021 with further interest, cost and expenses accrued thereon.

Description of immovable secured assets to be sold: All that part and parcel of residential property Flat No.134, Block No.1, Municipal Corporation No.15/12, Ward No. 78, situated in the Second Floor of the apartment building known as "THE EMBASSY" constructed on the schedule A property, including covered car parking in the basement floor and common facilities of the association of the EMBASSY apartments and having total super built up area of 2337 Sq.ft. together with 924.68 Sq.ft of undivided share right title and interest in A-Schedule property.

Schedule A: All the piece and parcel of land and property bearing corporation Old No.3, Subsequently renumbered as No.7 and now numbered as No.15, situated in All Askar Road, Corporation division No.71, Bangalore-560001 and in all measuring about 9363 sq. mtrs and bounded on the East-Premises bearing New No.16 and Old No.4 and 3 of All Askar Road measuring about 383 feet (116.76 mtr) on that side, West- Carmelite convent bearing Municipal New No.14 and Old No.2 and also the portion of the land retained by Mrs. Nizami and measuring about 288 feet (87.79 mtr) plus 136 feet (41.46 mtr) on that side; North-Premises bearing New No.11 and Old No.9 of Cunningham road and measuring about 240 feet (73.17 mtrs) on the side, South- All Askar road and measuring about 245 feet (74.69 mtr) plus 80 feet (24.39 mtr) on that side.

The details of encumbrances, if any known to the secured creditor -SA No. 67/2021, Orders passed by RO, DRT-2 in TRC No. 127/18.

Date and time of E-Auction: 20.04.2022 between 10.00 am to 4.00 pm (with 10 min unlimited auto extensions) E-auction website-www.mstccommerce.com Last date for submission of EMD : On or before the commencement of e-auction. Reserve price: Rs.27.00 Lakhs, Earnest Money to be Deposited: Rs.27.00 Lakhs (Twenty Seven Lakhs) to be deposited on or before 19.04.2022 (by 4.30 PM) as 10% of Reserve Price.

For Detailed terms and condition of the sale, please refer to the link provided in (1) <https://www.ibpi.in> (2) www.unionbankofindia.co.in

The intending purchaser require to register through: <https://www.mstccommerce.com/auctionhome/ibpiindex.jsp>

The online E-auction will be held through website: www.mstccommerce.com

For auction related queries e-mail to sarfais@unionbankofindia.com or contact Union Bank of India, Mallewaram Branch Manager 080-22958227 / 228, Mr. Hariprasad, Mob: 7755910447, e-mail: mallewaram@unionbankofindia.com

Place: Bangalore Date: 15.03.2022 Sd/- Authorised Officer
Union Bank of India.

Dommasandra Branch
No.10,11,12,13,14, Sy.No.83, CR Complex, Opp. Cyprus Square, Dommasandra Circle, Sarjapura Main Road, Anekal Taluk, Bengaluru-562125, Ph: 080-27822755, Email: bm2975@unionbankofindia.com

Notice To Borrower / Guarantor Under
Sub-Section (2) of Section 13 of the SARFAESI Act, 2002

At your request, Bank has extended credit facilities to the below mentioned individuals against secured assets through its Union Bank of India, Dommasandra Branch, the relevant particulars of the property on which you have created security interest by execution of security agreement/documents & creation of mortgage by way deposit of title deeds are furnished hereunder. As the operation and conduct of the financial assistance/ credit facilities have become irregular, the debts have been classified as Non Performing Assets in accordance with the directives/guidelines issued by Reserve Bank of India consequent to the default committed by the borrowers in repayment of the principal debt and interest thereon. As the demand notice sent by register AD calling upon you, was un-served / not acknowledged, this publication is now issued.

1) Name and address of the Borrower/Guarantor: (1) Mr Chinnam Praveen Kumar and Mrs.Chinnam Ambika, Villa No.31, Peninsula Prakruthi, Itanagar, Main Road, Sarjapura, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore-562125

Facility / Loan	Limit Sanctioned (Rs)	Running Ledger O/s (Rs.)	TOTAL DUES AS ON 31.03.2021
HOUSING LOAN 29753010002360	Rs. 41,60,000/-	Rs. 46,21,972.33	Rs. 45,11,744/-

Description of the secured assets: Flat bearing No.D007, in the Ground Floor, present E-Property No.150200100100620952 of the Apartment building known as "SOVEREIGN SANTHINIVASA" having a Super Built-Up Area of 1285 sq.ft containing Two bed rooms along with One Car Parking Space, including Proportionate share in common areas such as passages, lobbies, staircase, Lift etc.. Bounded by: East: Flat No.006 & Open Space, West: Kristal Campus, North: Corridor & Flat No.003, South: Private Property. Name of Owner Mr Chinnam Praveen Kumar and Mrs.Chinnam Ambika.

Amount Outstanding: Rs. 46,21,972.33/- (Rupees Forty Six Lakhs Twenty one thousand Nine Hundred Seventy Two and Thirty Three Paise Only) as on 26.08.2021 plus interest from 26.08.2021 and other Charges.

NPA Date: 26.08.2021 **Demand Notice Date:** 08.09.2021

2) Name and address of the Borrower/Guarantor: Mr. Srinivas G & Mrs Sharadha S, Site No.03, Khattha No.43/43/1, SI No.2906, 7th Cross, Near Sri Muneshwara Temple, Hosapalya Village, Hongasandra, Bangalore-560068.

Facility / Loan	Limit Sanctioned (Rs)	Running Ledger O/s (Rs.)	TOTAL DUES AS ON 31.03.2021
HOUSING LOAN 297530100001583	Rs. 40,00,000/-	Rs. 43,16,403.34	Rs. 42,09,744.34

Description of the secured assets: All that piece and parcel of property bearing Site No.3, Khattha No.43/43/1, SI No.2906, situated at Hosapalya Village, Hongasandra Dhakale, Begur Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, presently comes under the limits of BIMP, measuring East to West: 30 Feet and North to South: 20 Feet, totally measuring 600 sq.ft and bounded by: East: Property belongs to Narasappa, West: Road, North: Site No.02, South: Site No.4. Name of Owner Mr Srinivas G & Mrs Sharadha S.

Amount Outstanding: Rs. 43,16,403.34/- (Rupees Forty Three Lakhs Sixteen Thousand Four Hundred Thirty and Thirty Four Paise only) and Rs.8,15,947/- (Rupees Eight Lakh Fifteen Thousand Fourty Seven) as on 26.08.2021 plus interest from 26.08.2021 and other Charges.

NPA Date: 26.08.2021 **Demand Notice Date:** 04.09.2021
If you fail to repay the aforesaid sum with interest and other expenses within 60 days from the date of this notice, Bank shall exercise all or any of the rights detailed under sub section (4) of the section 13 of the SARFAESI Act. You are also put on notice that in terms of sub section 13 of section 13 you shall not transfer by sale, lease or otherwise the said secured assets detailed above without obtaining written consent of the Bank. This notice is without prejudice to the Banks rights to initiate such other action or legal proceedings as it deem necessary under any other applicable provisions of law.

Please also note that as per section 13(8) of the Act, you may redeem the secured asset by remitting the amount demanded above together with all costs, charges and expenses incurred, at any time before the date of publication of notice for public auction or inviting quotations or tenders from public or private treaty for transfer by way of lease, assignment or sale of the secured asset(s).

Date: 21.03.2022 Sd/- Authorised Officer
Place: Bangalore Union Bank of India

ದೊಡ್ಡಬಳ್ಳಾಪುರ ಯೋಜನಾ ಪ್ರಾಧಿಕಾರ

ಎಸ್.ಎಸ್. ಕಾಂತ್ಲೆ, ಮೊದಲನೇ ಮಹಡಿ, ನಗರ ಪೊಲೀಸ್ ಠಾಣೆ ಎದುರು, 'ಡಿ' ಕ್ರಾಸ್, ದೊಡ್ಡಬಳ್ಳಾಪುರ-561 203, ದೂರವಾಣಿ : 080-29562046

ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: DPA/TP/CLU/22/2021-22

ದಿನಾಂಕ: 19.03.2022

ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ನಗರ ಮತ್ತು ಗ್ರಾಮಾಂತರ ಯೋಜನಾ ಕಾಯ್ದೆ 1961 ರ ಕಲಂ 14 (ಎ) ರ ಅಡಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಈ ಕೆಳಕಂಡ ಅರ್ಜಿದಾರರು 'ವ್ಯವಸಾಯಿ ವಲಯ' ದಿಂದ 'ವಸತಿವಲಯ' ಕ್ಕೆ ಭೂ ಉಪಯೋಗ ಬದಲಾವಣೆ ಕೋರಿ ಅರ್ಜಿ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ಸದರಿ ಭೂ ಉಪಯೋಗ ಬದಲಾವಣೆಯ ಪ್ರಸ್ತಾವನೆಯ ಜಮೀನಿನ ವಿವರಗಳು ಈ ಕೆಳಕಂಡಂತಿರುತ್ತವೆ. ಈ ಸಂಬಂಧ ಯಾವುದೇ ಅಕ್ಷೇಪಗಳಿದ್ದಲ್ಲಿ, ಈ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ ಪ್ರಕಟವಾದ ದಿನಾಂಕದಿಂದ 15 ದಿನಗಳ ಅವಧಿಯೊಳಗೆ ಅಕ್ಷೇಪಗಳನ್ನು ಲಿಖಿತವಾಗಿ ಸದಸ್ಯ ಕಾರ್ಯದರ್ಶಿಗಳು, ದೊಡ್ಡಬಳ್ಳಾಪುರ ಯೋಜನಾ ಪ್ರಾಧಿಕಾರ, ದೊಡ್ಡಬಳ್ಳಾಪುರ ಕಛೇರಿಗೆ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ತಿಳಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ನಿಗದಿತ ಅವಧಿಯ ನಂತರ ಬರುವ ಯಾವುದೇ ಅಕ್ಷೇಪಗಳನ್ನು ಪರಿಗಣಿಸಲಾಗುವುದಿಲ್ಲ.

1.	ಶ್ರೀ ಆರ್. ಪ್ರದೀಪ್ ಬಿರ್ಲಾ ರಮೇಶ್ ವಿ.ಟಿ.	ಯಲಹಂಕ	ಹೆಸರಪಟ್ಟು-2	ಸೀತಕೆಂಪನಹಳ್ಳಿ	12/1ಎ	02-36	ವ್ಯವಸಾಯ	ವಸತಿ
2.	ಶ್ರೀ ಆರ್. ಪ್ರದೀಪ್ ಬಿರ್ಲಾ ರಮೇಶ್ ವಿ.ಟಿ.	ಯಲಹಂಕ	ಹೆಸರಪಟ್ಟು-2	ಸೀತಕೆಂಪನಹಳ್ಳಿ	12/1ಬಿ	00-16	ವ್ಯವಸಾಯ	ವಸತಿ
3.	ಶ್ರೀ ಅಣ್ಣಯ್ಯಪ್ಪ, ಸಂಜೀವಮೂರ್ತಿ, ದಯಾರಾಮಯ್ಯ, ರಮೇಶ್ ಮತ್ತು ಮುನಿರಾಮ ಬಿರ್ಲಾ ಲೀಟ್. ನಂ.ಬಂಡಪ್ಪ	ಯಲಹಂಕ	ಹೆಸರಪಟ್ಟು-2	ಸೀತಕೆಂಪನಹಳ್ಳಿ	12/2	01-30	ವ್ಯವಸಾಯ	ವಸತಿ
4.	ಶ್ರೀ ಮುನಿರಾಮಪ್ಪ, ಅಣ್ಣಯ್ಯಪ್ಪ, ಸಂಜೀವಮೂರ್ತಿ, ದಯಾರಾಮಯ್ಯ, ಮತ್ತು ರಮೇಶ್ ಬಿರ್ಲಾ ಲೀಟ್. ನಂ.ಬಂಡಪ್ಪ	ಯಲಹಂಕ	ಹೆಸರಪಟ್ಟು-2	ಸೀತಕೆಂಪನಹಳ್ಳಿ	12/3	02-00	ವ್ಯವಸಾಯ	ವಸತಿ
5.	ಶ್ರೀ ರಾಜಕುಮಾರ್ ಬಿರ್ಲಾ ಸಂಜೀವ ಉರೂಫ್ ಅಮೀನ್ ನಂಬಪ್ಪ	ಯಲಹಂಕ	ಹೆಸರಪಟ್ಟು-2	ಸೀತಕೆಂಪನಹಳ್ಳಿ	12/5	01-29	ವ್ಯವಸಾಯ	ವಸತಿ
6.	ಶ್ರೀಮತಿ ರಶ್ಮಿಪತಿ	ಯಲಹಂಕ	ಹೆಸರಪಟ್ಟು-2	ಸೀತಕೆಂಪನಹಳ್ಳಿ	13/1	00-30	ವ್ಯವಸಾಯ	ವಸತಿ
	ಶ್ರೀಮತಿ ಕೊಡ್ಲಹನುಮಕ್ಕ	ಯಲಹಂಕ	ಹೆಸರಪಟ್ಟು-2	ಸೀತಕೆಂಪನಹಳ್ಳಿ	13/1	00-35	ವ್ಯವಸಾಯ	ವಸತಿ
	ಶ್ರೀಮತಿ ಕೆಂಪಪ್ಪ	ಯಲಹಂಕ	ಹೆಸರಪಟ್ಟು-2	ಸೀತಕೆಂಪನಹಳ್ಳಿ	13/1	00-35	ವ್ಯವಸಾಯ	ವಸತಿ
7.	ಶ್ರೀ ಹನುಮಂತ ಬಿರ್ಲಾ ಸಿ.ಕೆ.ಮುನಿಯಪ್ಪ	ಯಲಹಂಕ	ಹೆಸರಪಟ್ಟು-2	ಸೀತಕೆಂಪನಹಳ್ಳಿ	13/2ಎ	01-13	ವ್ಯವಸಾಯ	ವಸತಿ
8.	ಶ್ರೀಮತಿ ಹನುಮಂತ ಬಿರ್ಲಾ	ಯಲಹಂಕ	ಹೆಸರಪಟ್ಟು-2	ಸೀತಕೆಂಪನಹಳ್ಳಿ	13/2ಬಿ	00-13	ವ್ಯವಸಾಯ	ವಸತಿ
9.	ಶ್ರೀ ಎಸ್.ಎಸ್. ಮಹೇಂದ್ರ ಬಿರ್ಲಾ ಲೀಟ್. ಎಸ್.ಎಂ. ನಾರಾಯಣಪ್ಪ	ಯಲಹಂಕ	ಹೆಸರಪಟ್ಟು-2	ಸೀತಕೆಂಪನಹಳ್ಳಿ	13/2ಬಿ	01-05	ವ್ಯವಸಾಯ	ವಸತಿ
10.	ಶ್ರೀ ಕೃಷ್ಣಪ್ಪ ಬಿರ್ಲಾ ಲೀಟ್. ಹನುಮಯ್ಯ	ಯಲಹಂಕ	ಹೆಸರಪಟ್ಟು-2	ಸೀತಕೆಂಪನಹಳ್ಳಿ	14/2	0-12½	ವ್ಯವಸಾಯ	ವಸತಿ
11.	ಶ್ರೀ ಸಿ.ಹೆ.ಕೃಷ್ಣಪ್ಪ ಬಿರ್ಲಾ ಹನುಮಯ್ಯ	ಯಲಹಂಕ	ಹೆಸರಪಟ್ಟು-2	ಸೀತಕೆಂಪನಹಳ್ಳಿ	14/5	0-12½	ವ್ಯವಸಾಯ	ವಸತಿ
12.	ಶ್ರೀ ಸಿ.ಹೆ.ಕೃಷ್ಣಪ್ಪ	ಯಲಹಂಕ	ಹೆಸರಪಟ್ಟು-2	ಸೀತಕೆಂಪನಹಳ್ಳಿ	14/7	00-09	ವ್ಯವಸಾಯ	ವಸತಿ
13.	ಶ್ರೀ ಗಂಗಾಪ್ಪ ಹನುಮಯ್ಯ ಬಿರ್ಲಾ ಲೀಟ್. ಮಾರಗಪ್ಪ	ಯಲಹಂಕ	ಹೆಸರಪಟ್ಟು-2	ಸೀತಕೆಂಪನಹಳ್ಳಿ	14/8	00-27	ವ್ಯವಸಾಯ	ವಸತಿ
14.	ಶ್ರೀ ಶ್ರೀಮದ್ವಾರಾಹ ಬಿರ್ಲಾ ಗುರುಲಿಂಗಪ್ಪ	ಯಲಹಂಕ	ಹೆಸರಪಟ್ಟು-2	ಸೀತಕೆಂಪನಹಳ್ಳಿ	14/10	00-28	ವ್ಯವಸಾಯ	ವಸತಿ
15.	ಶ್ರೀ ಬಸವರಾಜ್ ಬಿರ್ಲಾ ಗುರುಲಿಂಗಪ್ಪ	ಯಲಹಂಕ	ಹೆಸರಪಟ್ಟು-2	ಸೀತಕೆಂಪನಹಳ್ಳಿ	14/12	00-12½	ವ್ಯವಸಾಯ	ವಸತಿ
		ಯಲಹಂಕ	ಹೆಸರಪಟ್ಟು-2	ಸೀತಕೆಂಪನಹಳ್ಳಿ	14/13	00-12½	ವ್ಯವಸಾಯ	ವಸತಿ
		ಯಲಹಂಕ	ಹೆಸರಪಟ್ಟು-2	ಸೀತಕೆಂಪನಹಳ್ಳಿ	14/14	00-09	ವ್ಯವಸಾಯ	ವಸತಿ
16.	ಶ್ರೀ ಸಿ.ಹೆ.ಕೃಷ್ಣ ಬಿರ್ಲಾ ಹನುಮಯ್ಯ	ಯಲಹಂಕ	ಹೆಸರಪಟ್ಟು-2	ಸೀತಕೆಂಪನಹಳ್ಳಿ	19/1	00-29	ವ್ಯವಸಾಯ	ವಸತಿ
17.	ಶ್ರೀ ಕುರಪ್ಪ ಬಿರ್ಲಾ ಲೀಟ್. ನಂ.ಬಂಡಪ್ಪ	ಯಲಹಂಕ	ಹೆಸರಪಟ್ಟು-2	ಸೀತಕೆಂಪನಹಳ್ಳಿ	19/2	01-20	ವ್ಯವಸಾಯ	ವಸತಿ
18.	ಶ್ರೀ ಅಂಜನೇಯ ಬಿರ್ಲಾ ವೆಂಕಟಸ್ವಾಮಿ	ಯಲಹಂಕ	ಹೆಸರಪಟ್ಟು-2	ಸೀತಕೆಂಪನಹಳ್ಳಿ	19/4	01-05	ವ್ಯವಸಾಯ	ವಸತಿ
19.	ಶ್ರೀಮತಿ ಹನುಮಂತ ಕೋಂಟಿ ಲೀಟ್. ರಾಮಯ್ಯ	ಯಲಹಂಕ	ಹೆಸರಪಟ್ಟು-2	ಸೀತಕೆಂಪನಹಳ್ಳಿ	20	01-22	ವ್ಯವಸಾಯ	ವಸತಿ
20.	ಶ್ರೀ ಶೇ.ಪುನೀತ್ ರಾಜ್ ಶ್ರೀ ಛೇಮರಾಜ್ ಮತ್ತು ಶ್ರೀ ವೆಂಕಟೇಶ್ ಮೂರ್ತಿರಾಜ್	ಯಲಹಂಕ	ಹೆಸರಪಟ್ಟು-2	ಕಾಕೋಳು	69	00-35	ವ್ಯವಸಾಯ	ವಸತಿ
21.	ಶ್ರೀಮತಿ ಸವಿತ ಕೋಂಟಿ ಲೀಟ್. ಬೈಲಪ್ಪ	ಯಲಹಂಕ	ಹೆಸರಪಟ್ಟು-2	ಕಾಕೋಳು	69	01-06	ವ್ಯವಸಾಯ	ವಸತಿ
22.	ಶ್ರೀಮತಿ ಸಿದ್ದಮ್ಮ ಕೋಂಟಿ ದೇವಯ್ಯ	ಯಲಹಂಕ	ಹೆಸರಪಟ್ಟು-2	ಕಾಕೋಳು	69	00-23	ವ್ಯವಸಾಯ	ವಸತಿ
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INDIAN EXPRESS IS NOT AN INDUSTRY. IT IS A MISSION.
— Ramnath Goenka

THE SYSTEMIC DECAY IN MANAGING INDIA'S METROS

It was one of those rare days in the Lok Sabha on Monday. Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways Nitin Gadkari was being praised by members cutting across party lines for his success in building roads. As irony would have it, hundreds of miles away, a 14-year-old girl was crushed to death by a Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) truck around the same time. A biker and a pedestrian too were injured. This was no freak accident. The subway meant for pedestrians was waterlogged. Repeated alerts from the traffic police had had little effect on the BBMP and people had been forced into jaywalking. Finally, it was a BBMP garbage truck that took a young life. A fortnight ago, a 27-year-old biker's life too was similarly snuffed out. Why? Because the BBMP and the Bangalore Water Supply and Sewerage Board (BWSSB) forgot to talk to each other. One relaid the road, the other dug it up again. And an unsuspecting young biker, out to fetch food for his mother, was felled by a half-open manhole.

These eminently avoidable accidents happen too frequently to be pardonable. It's not rash or drunk driving that causes them—the reasons are structural. Our road maintenance is simply too lax, or the asphalt just gets washed away. A city like Bengaluru boasts so many lethal potholes that the Karnataka High Court censured the local civic body. Instead of meeting the court-given deadline for bringing the roads to an acceptable state, the civic bodies passed the buck. This systemic decay is common to most of our metros—so is the distress it causes to the populace.

Civic body reforms seems like a boring subject, but the cost is paid in terms of lives. They are not without funds, just deathly bureaucratic. Gadkari's sparkling highways have little to do with this inner city mess. But this is what the toiling masses use everyday.

FALSE NATIONAL PRIDE TOWARDS RUPEE VALUE

The value of rupee vis-a-vis dollar has been an issue of false national pride (or lack of it) for a long time. Every time the rupee weakens against the dollar, it becomes an issue of national debate, albeit for all the wrong reasons. The value of the rupee does signify the economic realities of the country, but it certainly is not a cause for national pride or shame—it was not when the rupee slid past 60 levels in the middle of 2013 nor was it so when it slid past 75 levels recently.

Besides, a 'strong' rupee is not always good for the economy. Ask this to the RBI, which was buying the dollar last year amidst large FII inflows in Indian equity markets. The RBI's intervention was in order to check rupee appreciation, which might, among other things, make India's exports too expensive. A stronger rupee not only makes exports expensive, it also makes imports cheap, pitting domestic producers against cheaper imports.

Apart from this fact, there are other economic realities that people should not lose sight of while fretting about the value of rupee. Till recently, the rupee had a downward bias against the dollar because of inflation rate differentials between India and the US. Higher inflation in India compared to other countries reduces the value of the rupee. The rupee has fallen on an average over 4% every year in the past 10 years despite the country growing at over 6% during this time.

The recent fall in rupee is largely because of the geopolitical turmoil resulting in massive surge in crude oil prices. India imports 85% of its oil requirement, which means its oil import bill is likely to go through the roof even if the crude prices come down to \$90-95. The rate hike by the US Fed would also lead to capital outflow, making rupee vulnerable. And while rupee may not touch the levels of 80 against dollar, it is unlikely to rise above 74 levels.

The value of currency is decided by many economic realities of the country and the world, and it does not, rightly, follow the wishes of macho nationalists, who still dream of the rupee at 40.



Right now we are facing a man-made disaster of global scale, our greatest threat in thousands of years: climate change. If we don't take action, the collapse of our civilisations and extinction of much of the natural world is on the horizon

David Attenborough

The Russian army may have been experimenting, at the outset of the war, with employment of limited resources but the failures to make headway has led to overkill

IMPONDERABLES & INCONSISTENCIES OF THE UKRAINE WAR

LT GEN SYED ATA HASNAIN (RETD)



Former Commander, Srinagar-based 15 Corps, Now Chancellor, Central University of Kashmir

First, the world expected no war; only brinkmanship. When Russia did invade Ukraine on 24 February 2022 the world was expecting an early end to hostilities, with capitulation of a presumably weak Ukraine. That is how conventional wars usually end; the strong vanquishing the weak. However, even in mismatched conflicts of this kind, there does not exist any doubt that every effort will be made by the two adversaries to limit the capability of the other to pursue the conflict. That would include infliction of damage to infrastructure, industry, national and frontline military morale and capability, while all the time drumming up international support.

This war has been different. It's gone beyond being conventional in the understanding of that term and is trending as something odd; a synthesis of conventional with the grey zone, giving rise to many imponderables. Those that have been observed over the last three weeks and more commence with the unpredictability factor. Everything about this war has so far proved unpredictable. Computer gaming models and prediction tools have all fallen by the side. The Russian army may have been experimenting at the outset with employment of limited resources but the failures to make headway has led to overkill, thus compounding the situation. How do we explain the heavy use of artillery, missiles and rockets against civilian population centres in cities, and a vir-

tual 'scorched earth' policy? Most noticeably, there has been very little effort by the Russian infantry and armour to close in and capture Ukrainian cities. Cities cannot remain in isolation mode forever and only be punished by firepower. Capturing them demands closing on to them and creating footholds at the periphery. That buys several casualties. Russian armour has been particularly vulnerable to the NLAW, or Next Generation Light Anti-Tank Weapon, produced by the Swedish defence firm SAAB and British defence company Thales. The Javelin anti-tank missile system and the Bayraktar TB2 drones have also been extremely successful. In many ways, half a century after the Yom Kippur War of 1973 between the Egyptians and Israelis, anti-tank missiles have once again come to the fore just as much as the shoulder fired anti-aircraft missiles. It should be known to experienced warriors in the Russian army that the only way to weed out such small infantry detachments at the periphery of built-up areas is by employing the infantry in lowlevel manoeuvres. No amount of missile strikes and rocket fire is going to find the precision to neutralise the wily infantrymen charged up by the infused spirit of nationalism that such situations bring for weaker nations.

There is an explanation for the reluctance of Russia to use its infantry in the classic role that is demanded by the situation. That role

draws casualties and that too in fair numbers. Body bags aren't exactly what the Russian army bargained for, considering the relative military mismatch, at least on paper. Perhaps forgotten by analysts is that Russia isn't one of those countries that has the demographics to fight a conventional war, especially one with combinations of other lethalties. As per the Foreign Policy magazine, "Russia suffered its largest natural population decline since World War II, losing 9,97,000 people in the year-long period between October 2020 and September 2021". From 1993 to 2007, the fertility rate (number of children a woman can be expected to have over the course of her lifetime) fell below 1.5, far below the 2.1 replacement rate needed to hold a population steady. Translated, that means Russia's 145 million population could reduce to 136 million, or even less than that, by 2040. Considering this phenomenon, body bags are unacceptable and that tells on the performance of the Russian army at the frontlines. In fact, that has apparently dictat-



Failure of a big power sometimes leads to all kinds of catastrophic decisions that may be completely out of sync with rationality. The references to the 'N' word by Russian leaders isn't a very encouraging development at all



SOURADIP SINHA

ed the doctrine employed by Russia in this war; to employ high levels of standoff firepower against targets without consideration for humanitarian aspects and avoiding the employment of infantry or tanks in direct assaults. It has tried through its not-so-attractive information war methods, to project that the Ukrainians were using these civilian institutions and housing complexes for military purposes. One of the basics taught at entry level to officer cadets (in India for sure) is the fact that firepower is a means to the capture of territory and not the end. Ultimately, boots have to be placed on ground, advance has to be conducted through fire and the enemy has to be engaged in physical combat to overwhelm him before you can claim the capture and control over territory. Many times, the enemy will return to recapture that lost ground for which those who have captured the area have to be prepared to hold and defend it. When you are reluctant to deploy your manpower to do all this, victory will be elusive and won't come easily.

While there can be an unending number of reasons for Russian incompetence in the field, it has been hubris and reluctance to follow time-tested military basics that has added to their woes. To imagine that this war would end in three to four days and that advancing tank columns would move primarily over roads and tracks is unpardonable. It reflects how little the Rus-

sian army has studied asymmetric warfare, even if that is conducted under conventional war conditions. Logistics stocks to cater for a couple of refills for the maintenance of frontline troops is a very basic aspect of planning. It seems that Russian tanks and other specialist vehicles ran dry after 72 hours; sacrilege indeed. That failure is the reason why the cities are being pounded all over. While Ukraine may not convert to an Afghanistan-like situation, the Russian frustration too is extremely dangerous. Failure of a big power sometimes leads to all kinds of catastrophic decisions that may be completely out of sync with rationality. The references to the 'N' word by Russian leaders isn't a very encouraging development at all.

Thus far, counter propaganda may have kept the Russian population isolated from information about the battlefield. However, modern technologies will not allow an iron curtain-like situation to prevail. Already slick NATO and Ukrainian information warfare is penetrating the Russian homeland. With more body bags flowing rearwards, one can expect an implosion within the population. Internal turbulence could add to the Kremlin's irrationality. This is what NATO and the rest of the world should be prepared for. Perhaps the time has come to stop taking unbending stands for the moment to prevent the unimaginable.

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WINDOW TO MITIGATE CLIMATE CHANGE IS RAPIDLY CLOSING

ATANU BISWAS



Professor of Statistics, Indian Statistical Institute, Kolkata

The recently published Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Report titled 'Impacts, Adaptation and Vulnerability' warned that if emissions are not cut rapidly, heat and humidity will create conditions beyond human tolerance and its economic impact could also be devastating. "The cumulative scientific evidence is unequivocal: Climate change is a threat to human well-being and planetary health," the report concludes. As the IPCC report asserts that almost half of humanity lives in the danger zone where climate change is already causing widespread disruption to nature and posing the greatest threat to the health and livelihoods of those who can least cope with it, it reminds us of British documentary film director Franny Armstrong's 2009 drama-documentary-animation hybrid *The Age of Stupid*. The film is a reflection from 2055 when the world has been ravaged by catastrophic climate change—London is flooded, Sydney is burning, Las Vegas has been swallowed up by the desert, the Amazon rainforest has burnt up, snow has vanished from the Alps and nuclear war has laid waste to India.

An unnamed archivist—the last guy alive in a post-apocalyptic, climate-fried world—is entrusted with the safekeeping of humanity's surviving store of art and knowledge in a vast repository off the coast of the largely ice-free Arctic. He watched a video archive of news clips and interviews filmed way back around 2008 and mused sorrowfully on how humankind could have been so stupid: "Why didn't we stop climate change when we had the chance?" *The Times* asserted that the power of this shameless campaigning film is that "it gives dates and deadlines. It explores options and ideas. It names culprits..."

Admittedly, we need 'net zero', which refers to a state in which the greenhouse gases going into the atmosphere are balanced by removal out of the atmosphere. But, we are living in the 'Age of Stupid', which, according to the best-selling author Phelim McAleer, should have been called the 'Age of Hypocrisy'.

The timing of the documentary was important. A revolution in people's consciousness was instigated in 2007 when Al Gore and IPCC jointly won the Nobel Peace Prize for "informing the world of the

dangers posed by climate change". The annual Conference of the Parties (COP), however, had been taking place since its first session in 1995 in Berlin, under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). A near-disaster of climate couldn't be resisted though.

The IPCC report may be assessed along with the much-hyped COP26 in Glasgow in November. The COP21 in Paris in 2015 was very special. The Paris Agreement—a legally binding international treaty on climate change—was adopted by 196 parties. Its goal was to limit global warming to well below 2 degrees Celsius, around 1.5, compared to pre-industrial levels. Countries aimed to achieve a climate-neutral world by mid-century.

Drafting a fancy plan is easy, but implementation needs science-driven economic and social trans-



Drafting a fancy plan is easy, but implementation needs science-driven economic and social transformation... We still assume that climate change is a solvable problem. In order to prevent the worst impacts of climate change, humanity must begin to significantly reduce carbon emissions during its brief and rapidly closing window, the recent IPCC report warns. The doomsday clock is ticking

formation. Countries were supposed to report an outline of their planning within 2020. Thus, the Glasgow meeting became extremely important. UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres, of course, thinks that we are "seemingly light-years away from reaching our targets".

Global consciousness intensified during these six years. There has been the 'Greta effect', as described by *The Guardian*. Swedish youth Greta Thunberg got utterly afraid of the climate catastrophe and wished to disseminate that fear through the world. Greta started her protest by sitting outside Riksdag—the Swedish parliament—every day for three weeks during school hours with the sign *Skolstrejk för klimatet* (School strike for climate). At 16, she could thunder at world leaders, "How dare you?", at the 2019 UN Climate Summit for ignoring the science behind the climate crisis. And, by withdrawing America from the Paris Accord, Donald Trump also must have generated a huge consciousness for climate among the common people.

Well, Vladimir Putin and Xi Jinping, two of the world's most powerful leaders, didn't even bother to attend COP26. China emits the maximum carbon dioxide in the world. While there's a global desire to reduce the use of fossil fuel, China, which already has more than 1,000 coal power plants, has planned to set up another 43. Australian

Prime Minister Scott Morrison recently reiterated coal power stations should 'run as long as they possibly can'. Back in 2017, then-Treasurer Morrison brought a fat lump of coal into Parliament during a debate, attempting to ridicule the commitment to renewable energy. Joe Biden's America is backing the Oil Sands Pipeline Project of the Trump-era that would carry Canadian oil across Minnesota and Wisconsin. Yes, Donald Trump has shown the world how vulnerable the international agreements and commitments are.

The latest IPCC report is a sobering reminder that the window to securing a livable future is closing rapidly. It's Volume II of the Sixth Assessment Report on Climate Change. Volume I looked at the physical and scientific basis of global warming, and this Volume II examines its effects on human society and the natural world. An important third volume, about how to stop climate change, is due this spring.

Yes, we still assume that climate change is a solvable problem. In order to prevent the worst impacts of climate change, humanity must begin to significantly reduce carbon emissions during its brief and rapidly closing window, the recent IPCC report warns. The doomsday clock is ticking. This age of stupid (or age of hypocrisy) is humanity's careless journey towards doom's doorstep.

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Sever dynastic ties

The Congress organisational election process is mere eyewash, with Gandhi loyalists electing them to power every time. It is high time the party sever its dynastic ties and opt for a more dynamic leader who can steer the GOP to its old glory. A good democracy requires an efficient opposition in the Centre and it still seems like only the Congress could fill that vacuum.
V Revathy, Trichy

Sycophancy in the GOP

Rebel Congress leader Ghulam Nabi

Azad, who till recently identified with the G23, has meekly surrendered to the party high command after meeting Sonia Gandhi. After their meeting, he declared that all is well in the party and Sonia will continue in her role till the conclusion of the organisational polls. Sycophancy is the life and breath in the Congress, and Azad is no exception.
S Ravindranath, Bengaluru

TN Budget commendable

This is with reference to *TN Budget's focus on social welfare* (Mar 21). It is commendable that Tamil Nadu made

an all-time high allocation of ₹42,500 crore for education in the state Budget. The state's plan to fund the college education of girls is noteworthy. It is agonising that such welfare measures are often dubbed as 'freebies' by vested interests. While identical steps practised in rich Scandinavian countries are generally glorified, small honest initiatives taken by our leaders are demeaned and given a political colour.
S Vasudevan, Talcher

Badminton's rising star

Badminton star Lakshya Sen deserves

all the praise for reaching the finals of the prestigious All England Badminton Championship, though he was defeated by Olympic champion Viktor Axelsen of Denmark in the finals. It was an incredible performance by him throughout the championship, especially his semi-final win against defending champion Lee Zii Jia of Malaysia. Sen is a rising star and has a bright future ahead.
N A Joseph, Ettumanoor

Women made into puppets

It is disconcerting to learn that

husbands have taken over from women councillors in running the administration in several wards in Tamil Nadu. With the men calling the shots, the women councillors have become mere puppets in the hands of their dominating male relatives. The purpose of giving an opportunity to women to run the show appears to have been nullified. The warning issued by DMK MP Kanimozhi that strict action would be taken against the concerned councillors is timely. Let's hope she means business.
P G Menon, Chennai

TWEETS
OF THE
DAY**Manish Tewari** @ManishTewari
Discrimination against Punjab continues as GOI alters
rules pertaining to Bhakra Beas Management Board.
Have requested Punjab CM to consult to AG**Tejashwi Yadav** @yadavtejashwi
Due to the efforts of the double engine
government, 37 more people died due to
spurious liquor in Bihar in the last two days**Derek O'Brien** @dereko'brienmp
Govt has not set state/mineral-wise annual extraction
ceiling. Who authorised them to sell nation's precious
resources? Will keep asking questions

newindianexpress.com

SECOND INNINGS FOR CAPTAINS



Pushkar Singh Dhami and Rajnath Singh in Dehradun on Monday | PFI

Proponent of uniform civil code, Dhami retains hot seat

VINEET UPADHYAY @ Dehradun

PUSHKAR Singh Dhami, 44, who became the youngest CM of Uttarakhand in July last year, is second among four children of Dhami family. Young Dhami had to learn to become responsible at a tender age, with his father serving the Army and Dhami helping his three sisters and mother in household chores.

When he took over as the 11th CM, challenges came in thick and fast, the main being dissenting seniors. He had to battle anti-incumbency and lost the election from Khatima but BJP scored a majority in the elections.

Born in Tundi village of Didihaat tehsil of Pithoragarh district in 1975, Dhami graduated in law and completed his degree in human resource management and industrial relations from University of Lucknow. BJP had removed two CMs before bringing him in, which compounded expectations from him. As CM, Dhami tried to assuage the anger within BJP and reversed many decisions of the previous CMs, including dissolving the Char Dham Devasthanam Board, which was brought by his predecessor Trivendra Singh Rawat in 2019.

Barely three months after he took over, disaster hit the state with incessant rains killing 77 people in Nainital, Udham Singh Nagar and elsewhere in the state.

Dhami, as the BJP's CM face, travelled across the state and announced implementation of the uniform civil code in the state, financial sops for BPL families, government jobs to 50,000 youth, strengthening the 'love Jihad' law, and setting up WiFi hotspots in every village.

After Uttarakhand separated from Uttar Pradesh in 2000, Dhami became state president of the Bharatiya Janata Yuva Morcha in 2002. He has served in the RSS and its sister organizations for 33 years.



I assure all my mothers, sisters, elders and young friends of the state that I am determined to fulfil their hopes and aspirations and take the state forward on the path of development

Pushkar Singh Dhami



Pramod Sawant (R) with other BJP leaders in Panjim on Monday | PFI

Ayurveda practitioner Sawant steps out of Parrikar shadow

SUDHIR SURYAWANSHI @ Mumbai

A practitioner of Ayurveda, Dr Pramod Sawant has become Goa Chief Minister for the second time. A Maratha by caste, he initially started social work with Nehru Youth Centre and later got attracted to RSS and its social work. In his younger days, he worked as a doctor with the state government.

Outside official duty hours, Sawant used to arrange medical check-up camps through his NGO for the poor in various parts of Goa. Erstwhile Goa CM, the late Manohar Parrikar saw a spark in him and asked him to resign from government service and join politics.

Sawant contested the by-elections in 2008 for BJP after the seat was vacated following the death of the MLA. He lost narrowly to Congress candidate Pratap Gauns from the Sankhalim (then Pale) seat. Sawant did not get disheartened and started reaching out to people. He became very active in social work and politics.

In 2012, he won from the same seat and was made the head of a local board. He got re-elected in 2017 and became the Assembly Speaker. After the death of Parrikar in 2019, Sawant was the only BJP MLA who had not come from another party. So he was the natural choice for chief minister. It was big shoes to fill. Sawant not only survived his tenure but also brought 10 Congress MLAs to BJP. It secured his chair and also, strengthened the party ahead of the 2022 state polls.

This year, Sawant won by just 666 votes against Dharmesh Saglani of Congress. Despite that, the BJP leadership chose him to lead Goa again. "He is a man of patience who listens to all sections of the society. He hardly makes controversial statements. He has good grip over administration and emerged as the Bahujan face of BJP, therefore the Catholic community goes with him," said Kishor Naik Gaonkar, editor of *Goan Varta*.



I thank MLAs, karyakartas for their support & for working hard in reaching to the people with the BJP's governance vision & bringing the double engine govt back in Goa

Pramod Sawant

No mention of Australian investment package at Modi-Morrison virtual meet

YESHI SELI @ New Delhi

PRIME Minister Narendra Modi and his Australian counterpart Scott Morrison on Monday attended the second India Australia virtual summit. They discussed their commitment towards strengthening bilateral trade, migration and mobility and education.

However, the much-awaited ₹1,500 crore investment package that Prime Minister Morrison was expected to announce for India didn't happen nor was a joint statement issued.

Australian High Commissioner to India Barry O'Farrell had on Sunday indicated that this investment package, which would have been the largest ever by Australia for India, would be announced during the summit. Unlike PM Modi, who shared many tweets about the summit, the Australian PM didn't share any.



Meanwhile, the early conclusion of the Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement (CECA) is on the cards. "The CECA between India and Australia is soon to be concluded," said Foreign Secretary Harsh Vardhan Shringla.

"Trade and investment, defence and security, education and innovation, science and technology -- in all these sectors we have very close cooperation. The CECA is crucial for our economic relations, economic revival and economic security," said Modi.

He also spoke about the good collaboration between India and Australia in Quad. "Our co-operation reflects our commitment to a free, open and inclusive Indo-Pacific," Modi added. This was the second India-Australia virtual summit. The first took place in June 2020.

Meanwhile, 29 antiquities consisting of sculptures and paintings executed in a variety of materials are back with India. These artefacts belong to six broad categories on the themes of 'Shiva and his disciples', 'Worshipping Shakti', 'Lord Vishnu and his forms', Jain tradition, portraits and decorative objects.

Morrison talked about the growing threat of change in the Indo Pacific region in the wake of the Russia-Ukraine conflict. He said Russia needed to be held accountable. "We are obviously distressed at the terrible situation in Europe."

**IN REMEMBRANCE**
Family members of late CDS General Bipin Rawat receive Padma Vibhushan given to him posthumously from President Ram Nath Kovind on Monday | PFI

SC reserves order on Covid compensation plea

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ New Delhi

THE Supreme Court on Monday reserved its order on a plea filed by the Union government seeking a time-limit for submitting claims for Covid-19 death compensation and also seeking measures to clear out fake claims. A bench of Justices MR Shah and NV Nagarathna was hearing the application filed by the Centre seeking permission for any central agency to undertake a sample scrutiny to verify the claimed documents processed by respective state governments for grant of ex gratia payment and take steps in accordance with the law.

"It is submitted that in the interregnum reports have been received by the Central government as well as by the state governments regarding fake/forged claims being submitted

by some unscrupulous persons. However, in absence of any verification and scrutiny of the claim forms, some unscrupulous persons started realising such ex gratia payments on the basis of forged and fake claim documents. Further, the reports received also do not rule out connivance of the local level officers appointed to clear the claims and existence of illegal rackets being flourishing to obtain ex gratia payment granted by this Hon'ble court on forged and fake documents," the application by the centre reads.

The court said four weeks might not be sufficient for people to apply for the compensation as the families would be in shock and grieving. The court was also informed that Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat and Kerala have received the most fake claims which would be scrutinised.



UPSC second chance up to DoPT, informs Attorney General

New Delhi: The Supreme court on Monday was informed by the Central government that an additional attempt to appear for the mains of the UPSC exam would be taken by the Department of Personnel and Training. The court was hearing a petition by three civil service aspirants who missed out on giving UPSC mains exam because of being Covid-19 positive. The matter will be heard on March 25. Additional Solicitor General Aishwarya Bhati said that the counsel representing UPSC would file a counter affidavit on the matter.

Evacuated over 22K from Ukraine, Centre tells court

New Delhi: Attorney General KK Venugopal told the Supreme Court on Monday that the Central government has brought back 22,500 students including a few of other nationalities from Ukraine and disposed of two petitions seeking protection to and evacuation of Indians stranded in the war-hit country. He also assured the top court that the government is looking into the matter of their further medical studies which has been halted due to the crisis. The court was hearing a plea seeking measures for the evacuation of stranded Indians.

IIT professor & university founder in AAP's RS picks

HARPREET BAJWA @ Chandigarh

THE ruling AAP in Punjab has kicked up a row over five Rajya Sabha nominations following opposition's criticism that these nominations are from outside the state.

The AAP nominees are IIT-Delhi's associate professor Sandeep Pathak, who was also the state party's campaign designer, Punjab co-in-charge and Delhi MLA Raghav Chadha, former cricketer Harbhajan Singh, founder of Lovely Professional University Ashok Kumar Mittal and textile businessman Sanjeev Arora. Rajya Sabha elections are due March 31.

Opposition parties have hit out at AAP, saying its nominees must be Punjabis from Punjab and not "outsiders." The nominees filed their papers in the Punjab assembly on Monday, the last day to file the papers for the five seats for the Upper House from Punjab. The last date for withdrawal of nominations is March 24 and elections will take place on March 31.

AAP is set to win all five seats falling vacant on April 9 as the party has 92 MLAs in the 117-member house. No other party is likely to file a nomination due to the lack of electoral strength. The Rajya Sabha polls are held on the principle of proportional representation.

"I want to thank Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal and

NOMINATED FOR RAJYA SABHA

**SANDEEP PATHAK**, PhD from Cambridge University

Associate professor at IIT, Delhi. AAP's election strategist in Delhi and now in Punjab. Conducted scientific surveys to help select party candidates. Hails from Chhattisgarh

**RAGHAV CHADHA**, London School of Economics graduate

The MLA from Delhi's Rajinder Nagar was AAP's Punjab co-in-charge before and during elections. Vice-chairman of Delhi Jal Board. Spearheaded critical water reforms in the national capital

**HARBHAJAN SINGH**, famous former cricketer

The off-spinner needs no introduction as a cricketer. Padma Shri and Arjuna award winner. Captained Punjab in Ranji Trophy. Working for upliftment of disadvantaged children through various foundations

**ASHOK MITTAL**, Founder, Lovely Professional University

Academic reformer, social activist and philanthropist from a humble background. With students from over 50 countries, the university is among top ones in the world

**SANJEEV ARORA**, Ludhiana-based textile businessman

Owns export house and runs Krishna Pran Breast Cancer Charitable Trust was established about 15 years ago, after his parents died of cancer. Many of the patients are treated free of cost

Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann for nominating me at such a young age. I will raise Punjab issues and protect the interests of the state in Parliament," said Chadha.

Harbhajan said he would promote sports. "My focus will be on the development of sports and to connect the youth of Punjab with sports. India should win 200 medals in the

Olympics, I will do everything to promote sports," he said.

Opposition parties have hit out at AAP over the nominations, saying that they should nominate only Punjabis. Congress MLA Sukhpal Singh Khaira said in a tweet that the list had disappointed him. "It will be the first discrimination against our state. We'll oppose it tooth and nail."

CM Mann keeps home, all 10 other ministers get multiple portfolios

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ New Delhi

ALL 10 sworn-in ministers of the new AAP government in Punjab received their portfolios today. Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann will keep Home and other departments. Harpal Singh Cheema will be the new Finance Minister, Gurmeet Singh Meht Hayer is Education Minister and Dr Vijay Singla, a dentist by profession, is the new Health Minister.

Besides Home, Mann has kept with himself vigilance, personnel, housing and urban development, local government, industry and commerce and all other departments.

Harpal Singh Cheema is a lawyer. He is in charge of finance, planning, programme implementation, excise and taxation and cooperation. Youth leader Gurmeet Singh Meht Hayer has been given School and Higher Education and Sports and Youth Services and Dr Vijay Singla, a dentist by profession, is the new Health and Family Welfare

Minister with medical education and research as additional responsibility.

Dr Baljit Kaur, an eye surgeon, is the Social Justice Empowerment and Minorities and Social Security, Women and Child Development Minister.

Harbhajan Singh, a retired excise and taxation officer, has got the charge of Power and Public Works Departments.

Lal Chand Kataruchak is the new Food, Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs, Forest and Wildlife Minister. Harjot Singh Bains, a lawyer, has got the charge of Tourism and Culture Affairs, Jails, Legal and Legislative Affairs and Mines and Geology.

Kuldeep Singh Dhaliwal is the Rural Development and Panchayats Minister with additional re-

sponsibility of animal husbandry, dairy development and fisheries and NRI affairs. Laljit Singh Bhullar is the Transport and Hospitality Minister. Bham Shankar Jimpa got revenue, rehabilitation, disaster management and water resources.

**Speaker elected**

Two-time AAP MLA Kuldeep Singh Sandhu was unanimously elected as Speaker of the Punjab Vidhan Sabha. He won from Kotkapura. He is the grandnephew of former president Giani Zail Singh

Recruitment rallies down due to Covid, Indian Army hit by shortage of soldiers

MAYANK SINGH @ New Delhi

AT a time when video footage of a youth, Pradeep Mehra, is getting viral for his determination to join Indian Army, there has been no recruitment at the soldier level in the force for two years. The Army has started to bear the operational cost of it.

While the Ministry of Defence on Monday said there has been no fresh induction, the number of soldiers leaving the Army has not come down.

A senior Army officer said operational contingencies have intensified in recent years. "At least 50,000 servicemen retire every year, therefore, the stoppage of new recruitment has started pinching us," he said.

This is despite tension persisting along the Line of Actual Control with heightened deployment in eastern Ladakh.

After 2019, no new recruitment has been made, said the MoD. This has led to a rise in soldiers' workload, affecting the men deployed at high altitude areas or operational areas. In a written reply to Rajya Sabha, Minister of State for Defence Ajay Bhatt cited Covid-19 as the reason for cancelling recruitment rallies nationwide. "All recruitment rallies planned by the Army recruiting offices/zonal recruiting offices have been suspended till further orders due to the Covid-19 situation in the country," he said.

He also shared details of recruitment rallies that the Army

was supposed to carry out in 2020 and 2021. Bhatt said 97 rallies were planned in 2020-21, out of which only 47 could be conducted. Out of the 47, Common Entrance Exam (CEE) for only four rallies could be conducted before suspension of recruiting activities.

For 2021-22, as many as 87 recruitment rallies were scheduled, out of which only four rallies have been conducted so far and no CEE could be conducted that year.

"Even if we start the recruitment process today, it will take around 1.5 years to select and train them," said an officer.

HUGE SHORTAGE DISCLOSED LAST YEAR

The government had on December 10 last year, informed Parliament that the shortage in the Army stood at 1,04,053 personnel, 12,431 in the Navy and 5,471 in the Air Force. The shortage has struck the much publicised recruitment of women as well.

Ahead of poll, Gujarat drops 10 Patidar cases

Congress and Patidar organisation leaders had announced agitation from March 23 if cases were not withdrawn

DILIP SINGH KSHATRIYA
@ Ahmedabad

MONTHS before the Assembly elections, the Gujarat government has withdrawn 10 cases linked to the Patidar reservation agitation of 2015, official sources said on Monday, adding the government was in the process to withdraw two cases against Hardik Patel.

The 10 cases registered in various parts of the state involved criminal proceedings mostly against the community's youngsters during the quota stir for the Patels. Patidar leaders, including Hardik Patel, and the state Congress had announced a statewide agitation from March 23 if the government did not withdraw the pending cases lodged against the Patidar Anamat Andolan

Samiti (PAAS) members. Hardik Patel had later joined the Congress.

The state government on Monday filed an affidavit in a court withdrawing cases against PAAS members.

PASS convener Alpesh Kathiria termed the state government decision as "positive" and said the organisation hoped for a similar action in other cases as well.

Former PASS member and BJP leader Varun Patel said the state government has so far withdrawn more than 450 cases. "All cases against PASS will be withdrawn. If the government makes good decisions, it will get good results," he said.

About the case against Hardik and Alpesh, Dharmik Malviya, a member of the PASS team, said, "We have warned

the government that if it does not decide on the matter by March 23, the Patidars will be forced to launch an agitation across Gujarat."

The government's decision came a day after a meeting of Congress and PAAS leaders at Khodaldham (the Patidar community's biggest temple) on Sunday. The meeting took up the possible political role of Patidar leader Naresh Patel. It also demanded the withdrawal of cases registered in 2015.

In the reservation movement, the police had registered a total 485 complaints out of which 228 complaints have been dismissed. The face of the agitation, Hardik Patel, said a decision to withdraw cases was taken by then CM Anandiben Patel in 2016, but the action is being taken only now.

SEVEN CASES WITHDRAWN FROM AHMEDABAD SESSIONS COURT		
CASE REGISTERED AT	CASE NUMBER	CHARGES
Krushnanagar	Session Case NO. 348/2016	Rioting, unlawful assembly
Krushnanagar	Session Case NO. 306/2016	Rioting, unlawful assembly
Naroda	Session Case NO. 198/2017	Rioting, unlawful assembly
Ramol	Session Case NO. 417/2017	Rioting, unlawful assembly
Bapunagar	Session Case NO. 483/2017	Rioting, unlawful assembly
D.C.B.	Session Case NO. 481/2017	Rioting, unlawful assembly
Ahmedabad Railway	Session Case NO. 222/2016	Rioting, attacking govt official

THREE CASES WITHDRAWN FROM AHMEDABAD METROPOLITAN COURT		
CASE REGISTERED AT	CASE NUMBER	CHARGES
Shaherkotdal	Number 301184/2016	Rioting, attacking govt official
Navrangpura	Number 1300858/2016	Rioting, attacking govt official
Sabarmati	Number 8021/2017	Rioting, attacking govt official

VIOLENCE HAD FORCED GOVT TO MAKE PEACE

After talks failed in 2015, the agitation had started again and turned violent. Finally, the government announced offers of scholarships and subsidies to general category students and a 10% quota for the economically backward sections of the community in April 2016

POLL DEBACLE

Chinks appear in rainbow team as SP allies air discontent

NAMITA BAJPAI @ Lucknow

ALL is not well in the rainbow alliance which Akhilesh Yadav-led Samajwadi Party (SP) stitched ahead of the Uttar Pradesh Assembly election.

Locked in a straight fight with the ruling BJP in maximum seats, the SP alliance was hopeful of making it to the throne of Lucknow, but with saffron brigade returning to power with over two-third majority winning 273 seats, various SP allies have started airing their discontent out in open.

The allies are not mincing words in levelling charges of ticket sale on alliance leadership in western UP and sidelining SCs and Muslims in other regions. It seems Akhilesh Yadav has a daunting task at hand to keep the flock together till the 2024 Lok Sabha elections.

To begin with western UP, RLD state president Masood Ahmad last week dropped a letter bomb accusing his party president Jayant Chaudhary and SP chief Akhilesh Yadav of behaving like "dictators". The

allegations came after Jayant clarified that he will stay with the SP and contest the 2024 Lok Sabha polls with Akhilesh.

Sources claimed the SP was contemplating to send Jayant to Rajya Sabha in the upcoming elections in July.

On the other, the corridors of politics are abuzz with SP's smaller ally SBSP chief Om Prakash Rajbhar meeting Amit Shah and top BJP leaders in Delhi on Friday. However, Rajbhar later denied the claims stating that he was looking forward to contest next elections with the SP.

Adding to the troubles, turncoat Swami Prasad Maurya and Mahan Dal chief Keshav Dev Maurya are locked in a cold war.

Even Akhilesh's uncle and Pragatisheel Samajwadi Party Lohia (PSPL) chief Shivpal Yadav also recently held the organisational structure of the SP responsible for the alliance debacle. He said that had the booth committees been formed before and tickets announced well in time, SP would have won much more seats.

TOURISM

Gulf delegation in J&K for biz opportunities

FAYAZ WANI @ Srinagar

A 36-member business delegation from UAE and Saudi Arabia has arrived on a four-day visit to Jammu and Kashmir to explore investment opportunities in different sectors in the Union Territory.

A senior government official said the visit is a follow up to Jammu and Kashmir signing MoUs with a number of UAE-based companies during the Dubai Exp2020 in Dubai in January this year.

The delegation, which comprises businessmen from UAE and Saudi Arabia, visited the tourist destination Pahalgam in South Kashmir on Monday. They would also be visiting other tourist destinations, including the ski resort of Gulmarg in north Kashmir, to explore investment opportunities in the tourism sector.

The delegation would attend a business event and interact with local businessmen at Sher-i-Kashmir International Convention Centre (SKICC) in Srinagar on Tuesday. Besides, the delegation would also meet J&K Lt Governor Manoj Sinha and other top civil officials.

Kashmir Chamber of Commerce and Industries president Sheikh Ashiq told this newspaper that they would probably be having an interaction with the delegation on Tuesday.

L-G: Will help MBBS students

Srinagar: J&K Lt Governor Manoj Sinha on Monday said the Centre and the J&K administration were working on a policy to help the MBBS students who returned from Ukraine to complete their studies. A group of MBBS students, who returned to J&K after the Russian invasion of Ukraine, met Sinha at Raj Bhavan on Monday. The students shared their experiences about how they were brought out from the war zone and reached their homes safely. The students said they were thankful to the Central government and the J&K administration. ENS

'MAJORITY FAVOURED JUNKED FARM LAWS'

SUDHIR SURYAWANSHI @ Mumbai

THE Supreme Court-appointed experts committee, tasked with studying the controversial farm laws and submitting its recommendations after talking with various groups, has revealed that the majority — 85.7% — stakeholders are in favour of the laws while only 13.3% are against them.

The committee appointed in January 2020 comprised policy experts such as Pramod Joshi, Shetkari Sangathan leader Anil Ghanwat and agriculture economist, Ashok

Gulati. The committee studied the farm laws and had one-on-one discussions with various stakeholders. It submitted a 92-page report to the Supreme Court. However, the court did not make this report public, but farmer leader Anil Ghanwat decided to make it public for the "larger interest of the farmers". Prime Minister Narendra Modi repealed these laws in November last year after a yearlong protest by farmers in Delhi. The expert committee held

11 meetings with various stakeholders, including farmer unions, industry bodies, private markets, state agriculture marketing boards, state governments, professionals and academics.

"The feedback received on an online portal establishes that two-thirds farmers support the farm laws while one-third did not support the laws. The feedback received through emails indicates that a majority supports the farm laws," reads the re-

port adding the "repeal or long suspensions of these farm laws would be unfair to the silent majority who support the farm laws."

The report says the farm laws can serve as overreaching architecture for agriculture marketing. Therefore, the states should allow some flexibility in implementing the laws with prior approval of the Central government. The report also suggests that the district revenue authority is full of workload, so they will not address the farmer's grievances effectively.

NDA ally leader joins RJD ahead of Bihar MLC polls

RAMASHANKAR @ Patna

IN a dramatic turn of events, Amar Paswan, son of Bochaha MLA late Musafir Paswan, resigned from the primary membership of Vikassheel Insaan Party (VIP) ahead of the by-election and joined the Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD) on Monday. Musafir's demise in November necessitated the bypoll in the reserved constituency.

Amar is likely to be fielded as RJD candidate from the seat. Musafir had won the Assembly polls in 2020 on the symbol of VIP led by Mukesh Sahani, who is now a minister in the Nitish Kumar-led NDA government in the state.

Amar's name was earlier floated by Sahani from the seat where by-election will be held on April 12. However, Sahani

was taken aback when the BJP, which is an ally of the NDA in Bihar, declared the name of former MLA Baby Kumari as its candidate. Baby had won as an independent candidate from the seat in 2015.

The development came soon after Sahani flew to New Delhi after meeting CM Nitish Kumar. Before leaving for the national capital, he told media in Patna that he would contest the

by-election at any cost and would not budge.

As report of Amar joining the RJD came out, former minister and eight-time MLA Rammai Ram reached the RJD office and pleaded for ticket either for him or his daughter Geeta. Earlier in the day, Union minister Nityanand Rai met Nitish Kumar. What transpired between the two leaders during the meeting is, not known.

'Charges could attract death penalty'

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Mumbai

THE Bombay High Court on Monday reserved its order on poet and social activist Varavara Rao's pleas seeking permanent bail on medical grounds and permission to reside at his home in Telangana. Rao is an accused in the Bhima Koregaon-Elgar Parishad case.

A division bench of justices Sunil Shukre and GA Sanap heard the arguments by Additional Solicitor General Anil Singh for the NIA and senior advocate Anand Grover for

Rao. The NIA urged the court to dismiss the plea of Rao, saying charges against him were "very, very serious," and, if proven, could attract death penalty.

The octogenarian presently resides at a rented apartment in Mumbai after he was granted medical bail for six months on February 1, 2021. Rao cited his delicate health and high cost of living in Mumbai to move to his home town.

The bench pointed out that

section 437 of the Code of Criminal Procedure (CrPC) does provide for permanent bail in special circumstances, including when an accused person is ill. Singh, however, argued that doctors at the JJ Hospital were competent enough to treat any ailment.

Rao's counsel reiterated that the 83-year-old poet had recently been clinically diagnosed as showing signs of "early Parkinson's disease".

EXPRESS READ

Vendor from Bihar shot at by militants in J&K

Srinagar: A non-local street vendor was on Monday evening shot at and injured by militants in south Kashmir's Pulwama district. It is the second such incident in the last three days. A police official said militants fired towards the vendor at Gangoo area of Pulwama district at around 7.45 pm. The injured identified as Bisujeet Kumar son of Paras Mandan, a resident of Bihar received multiple gunshot injuries. He was evacuated to a nearby hospital, from where he was taken to Srinagar later.



Biren sworn in as Manipur CM, 5 take oath as ministers

PRASANTA MAZUMDAR @ Guwahati

N Biren Singh was sworn in as the Chief Minister of Manipur for second straight term on Monday. Governor La Ganesan administered the oath of office and secrecy to the 61-year-old at a function held at the Raj Bhavan in Imphal.

Five others — Thongam Biswajit Singh, Yumnam Khemchand Singh, Konthoujam Govindas, Nemcha Kipgen and Awangbow Newmai — were sworn in as ministers. Kipgen is the only woman among the five. The ministry will be expanded later. Six more berths are vacant. BJP president JP Nadda, Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma and his Tripura counterpart Biplab Kumar Deb were among dignitaries present. It is official the BJP's alliance with the Naga People's Front will continue as evident from Newmai's induction into the ministry.

Cong flays Kashmir Files screening in Raj Bhawan

HARPREET BAJWA @ Chandigarh

OBJECTIONS have been raised over the screening of *The Kashmir Files* at Punjab Raj Bhawan here and also at a park in Rewari town of Haryana.

Sources said the movie was screened at the Guru Nanak Auditorium in Punjab Raj Bha-

wan on Sunday for a selected audience. Chandigarh Congress said the decision lowered the dignity of the governor's office. Chandigarh Congress President Subhash Chawla said, "The movie conveniently hides the truth that the exodus of the Kashmiri Pandits took place in 1990 during the regime

of an inept non-Congress government, which was supported by the BJP. The movie only promotes the divisive agenda of the BJP and the RSS," he said.

Another row erupted after the movie was screened on a big screen erected at a park in Rewari by a local group. Film-maker Vivek Aghiotri issued

a warning against screening the movie in the open. "WARNING: Showing *The Kashmir Files* like this in open and free is a CRIMINAL OFFENCE. Political leaders must respect creative business and true nationalism and social service means buying tickets in a legal and peaceful manner," he tweeted.

IIT-R, power firm sign MoU on control systems

Sophisticated control over power grids across India will be the agenda of an MoU signed between the IIT Roorkee with the Power System Operation Corporation Limited (POSOCO), a PSE under the Union Ministry of Power on March 16. On the partnership, M K Singhal, Head, Department of Hydro and Renewable Energy (HRED), IIT Roorkee, said, "To improve hydro thermal as well as renewable energy scheduling and coordination, and fully exploit the benefits of hydro power in improving grid integration of renewable energy and minimising greenhouse gas emissions, HRED, IIT Roorkee will present a roadmap for modelling and simulation of power systems."



VINEET UPADHYAY

Our correspondent in Dehradun

vineet.upadhyay@newindianexpress.com

DEHRADUN DIARY

Less than half of loan scheme applicants benefitted

Only 41 per cent of enterprising aspirants who applied for loans under Chief Minister's Self-Employment Scheme (Mukhyamantri Swarojgar Yojana) have got approvals in 2020-21. The aim of the scheme is to provide loans to encourage people, especially the youth to start businesses of their own to earn livelihood. Out of total 12,091 applications received by the state industries authorities, which were forwarded to the banks, only 5,061 got approved. Interestingly, the track record of small banks have proven better than the bigger nationalised banks when it comes to approval of loans under the scheme. The scheme, launched in May last year, aims to provide investment subsidies ranging in 15-25 per cent for new businesses such as restaurants, beauty parlour, pisciculture, and animal husbandry activities.

Security alarm over 'ghost' villages in border

Fuelling security concerns, an RTI query has revealed that five frontier districts of Uttarakhand which share border with Tibet and Nepal collectively is home to 430 ghost villages. Districts of Udham Singh Nagar, Pithoragarh, Uttarkashi, Chamoli and Champawat share the 350-km border with China and the 275-km border with Nepal. The RTI reply from January revealed that 73,072 people migrated from these districts in last 10 years. Out of all of Uttarakhand, over 5 lakh people have migrated in the same period. The query was filed by Haldwani-based activist Hemant Gaunia.



Pro-Kabaddi tourney at Dev Bhoomi concluded

A four-day Pro-Kabaddi League — with contending teams of schools — was organised at the Dev Bhoomi Uttarakhand University (DBUU) recently. The CSE Panthers team defeated the BSC Titans in a close final match. During this, the students of the university strongly encouraged the players. Presenting the trophy to the winning team, Pro Chancellor Shri Aman Bansal said that the warmth of the players was worth watching. The league was organized under the supervision of Chancellor Mr Sanjay Bansal and Pro Chancellor Mr Aman Bansal. During the final match, Dean of Student Welfare Mr Digvijay Singh and others were present.

Plane with 132 on board crashes in China, no sign of survivors

According to official media, the plane sharply descended on to the mountainous area and crashed; President Xi orders swift action to identify the cause

BEIJING

A CHINESE passenger plane with 132 people on board crashed in the southern Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region on Monday, the regional emergency management department said, in the worst air disaster in over a decade in the country.

The Boeing 737 aircraft of China Eastern Airlines, which flew from Kunming to Guangzhou, crashed in Tengxian County in the city of Wuzhou, causing a mountain fire, the department was quoted as saying by the state-run Xinhua news agency.

Hopes to find the survivors in the thick forests in the mountainous region receded as the night fell making efforts by

scores of rescuers difficult. State television showed teams of rescuers armed with search lights scurrying through the sprawling area in the forests on the remote mountainous region as darkness enveloped the forest region.

The 132 people included 123 passengers and nine crew members, the Civil Aviation Administration of China said on its website.

While the airline has announced that no foreigners were on board, families of some crew members from the crashed Eastern Airlines flight have arrived in the company's branch office in Yunnan Province and they were being assisted to "work on follow-up issues", state-run CGTN-TV reported. A "shocked" Chinese



A piece of wreckage of the crashed plane is seen on the mountain in Tengxian County on Monday | AP/PTI

President Xi Jinping ordered "swift action to identify the cause of the crash and to strengthen the safety overhaul

of the civil aviation sector to ensure the absolute safety of the sector and people's lives," Xinhua reported. The People's



A piece of wreckage of the crashed plane is seen on the mountain in Tengxian County on Monday | AP/PTI

Liberation Army (PLA) has promptly mobilised rescue forces in the city of Wuzhou to the crash site of the China Eastern Airlines flight, the Southern Theater Command

said on Monday. According to the official media, the plane sharply descended on to the mountainous area and crashed. Footage shot by local residents in their phones showed the area of the crash was engulfed by massive mountainous fire with explosions heard in the background.

There is no official word here yet on the number of casualties or survivors except speculation about the unlikelihood of survivors.

The crash shattered China's airlines record of over 100 million continuous hours of safe flight as of February 19.

The last domestic fatal air accident was in 2010, when an Embraer passenger plane crashed in Yichun, Heilongjiang province, killing 42

people. As soon as the plane crashed in the forest area, Chinese officials rushed hundreds of fire brigades as well as rescue teams to find the survivors before the night fell.

The fire has been put out and the rescue operation is underway, said Chen Jie, an official with the regional emergency management department.

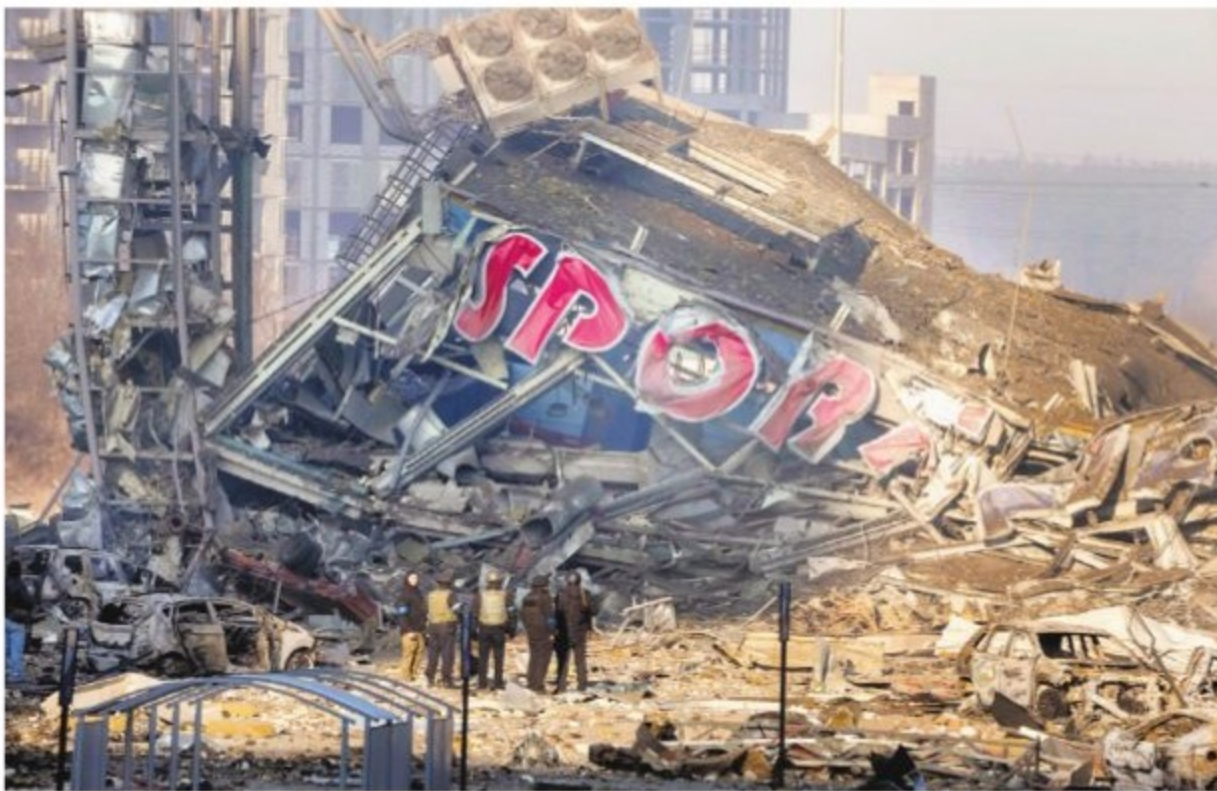
Chinese Premier Li Keqiang urged efforts to console the families of the victims and provide them with assistance.

The Federal Aviation Administration said via Twitter that it was ready to assist in investigation efforts if asked.

Boeing China earlier said it was aware of the reports of the plane crash and was working to gather more information.

Agencies

Ukraine rejects Russian demand for surrender in Mariupol



People examine the damage after the shelling of a shopping centre in Kyiv on Monday | AFP

UK says Russia behind hoax calls to officials

London: Britain is accusing the Russian state of being behind hoax calls to two government ministers by an imposter posing as the prime minister of Ukraine. Defence Secretary Ben Wallace said the hoaxer was able to speak to him on a video call on Thursday. Home Secretary Priti Patel said she had received a similar call, and Culture Secretary Nadine Dorries said an unsuccessful attempt was made to speak to her. Wallace said he became suspicious and hung up after the caller "posed several misleading questions". He accused Russia of "dirty tricks." AFP

Russian court bans Facebook, Instagram

Moscow: A Moscow court on Monday banned Facebook and Instagram terming them "extremist" organisations, after authorities accused US tech giant Meta of tolerating "Russophobia" during the conflict in Ukraine. The Tverskoi district court said it had agreed to a request from prosecutors for the two social media platforms to be banned for "carrying out extremist activities", but that Meta's WhatsApp messenger service would not be prohibited because it is not a public platform. The move is part of sweeping efforts by Moscow to crack down on social media amid its military action in pro-Western Ukraine.

LVIV

UKRAINIAN officials defiantly rejected a Russian demand that their forces in Mariupol lay down arms and raise white flags on Monday in exchange for safe passage out of the besieged strategic port city.

Even as Russia intensified its attempt to pummel Mariupol into surrender, its offensive in other parts of Ukraine has floundered. Western governments and analysts say the broader conflict is grinding into a war of attrition, with Russia continuing to bombard cities.

In the capital, Kyiv, a shopping centre in the densely populated Podil district near the city centre was a smoldering, flattened ruin on Monday after being hit the day before by shelling that killed eight people, according to emergency officials.

Ukrainian authorities said



People wait in line at a special application point at the National Stadium in Warsaw, Poland, on Monday to apply for Polish ID numbers that will entitle them to work and receive free health care and education | AFP

There can be no talk of any surrender, laying down of arms. We have already informed the Russian side about this

Irina Vereshchuk, Ukrainian Deputy Prime Minister

Russia shelled a chemical plant in northeastern Ukraine, sending toxic ammonia leaking into the air, and hit a military training base in the west with cruise missiles. The encircled southern city of Mariupol on the Sea of Azov has seen some of the worst horrors of the war, under Russian pounding for more than three weeks, in a brutal assault that Ukrainian and Western officials have called a war crime.

Strikes hit an art school sheltering some 400 people only hours before Russia's offer to open corridors out of the city in return for the capitulation of its defenders, according to Ukrainian officials.

According to Ukrainian officials.

Ukraine's President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said it was not clear how many casualties there were.

"They are under the rubble, and we don't know how many of them have survived," he said in a video address, vowing that Ukraine would "shoot down the pilot who dropped that bomb". Russian Col Gen Mikhail Mizintsev had offered two corridors — one heading east towards Russia and the other west to other parts of Ukraine — in return for Mariupol's surrender. He did not say what Russia planned if the offer was rejected.

The Russian Ministry of Defence said authorities in Mariupol could face a military tribunal if they sided with what it described as "bandits", the Russian state news agency RIA Novosti reported.

Ukrainian officials rejected the proposal even before Russia's deadline of 5am Moscow time for a response came and went.

"There can be no talk of any surrender, laying down of arms," Ukrainian Deputy Prime Minister Irina Vereshchuk told the news outlet Ukrainian Pravda. "We have already informed the Russian side about this."

Mariupol Mayor Piotr Andriyushchenko also quickly dismissed the offer, saying in a Facebook post he didn't need to wait until the morning deadline to respond and cursing at the Russians, according to the news agency Interfax Ukraine.

The strike on the art school was the second time in less than a week that officials reported an attack on a public building where Mariupol residents had taken shelter. AP

Ukraine urges China to play 'key role' in resolving crisis

KYIV

Ukrainian Foreign Minister Dmytro Kuleba called on China on Monday to play an "important role" in efforts to resolve Kyiv's conflict with Moscow. "We share Beijing's position on the need to find a political solution to the war against Ukraine and call on China as a global power to play an important role in this effort," Kuleba said on Twitter.

The call came after Kyiv last week urged Beijing to condemn President Vladimir Putin's invasion of Ukraine.

China, which shares Russia's hostilities towards the United States, has stayed silent on Putin's actions in Ukraine. Last week, US President Joe Biden warned his Chinese counterpart that there would be "consequences" if Beijing provided material support to Moscow. AFP

Myanmar committed genocide against Rohingya, says Blinken

WASHINGTON

VIOLENT repression of the largely Muslim Rohingya population in Myanmar amounts to genocide, US Secretary of State Antony Blinken said on Monday, a declaration intended to both generate international pressure and lay the groundwork for potential legal action.

Authorities made the determination based on confirmed accounts of mass atrocities on civilians by Myanmar's military in a widespread and systematic campaign against the ethnic minority, Blinken said in a speech at the US Holocaust Memorial Museum.

It is the eighth time since the Holocaust that the US has concluded a genocide has occurred, the secretary of state said, noting the importance of calling attention to inhumanity even as horrific attacks occur elsewhere in the world, including Ukraine. "Yes, we stand with the people of Ukraine," he said. "And we must also stand with people who are suffering atrocities in other places."

The government of Myanmar is already under multiple layers of US sanctions since a



Ethnic Rohingya women and children sit by a fire on a beach after their boat was stranded on Idaman Island in East Aceh, Indonesia, on June 4, 2021, after leaving a refugee camp in Bangladesh | AP FILE PIC

military coup ousted the democratically-elected government in February 2021. Thousands of civilians throughout the country have been killed and imprisoned as part of an ongoing campaign of repression against anyone opposed to the ruling junta.

More than 700,000 Rohingya Muslims have fled from Buddhist-majority Myanmar to refugee camps in Bangladesh since August 2017, when the Myanmar military launched a clearance operation in response to attacks by a rebel group.

Myanmar security forces have been accused of mass rapes, killings and the burning of thousands of homes. AP

Delhi-Doha flight makes emergency landing in Pak

KARACHI/NEW DELHI

A QATAR Airways flight from New Delhi to Doha made an emergency landing early on Monday at Karachi in Pakistan after it developed a technical fault, according to officials.

Pakistan Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) spokesman Saifur Rehman confirmed that Qatar Airways' flight QR-579 had landed safely at Karachi's Jinnah International Airport.

Within hours, all 283 passengers were flown out to Doha on an alternative aircraft sent by the airline. Rehman said the Doha-bound flight of Qatar Airways QR579 had taken off from New Delhi at 3.20 (IST) and made an emergency landing in Karachi around 5.30 am. "The captain declared an emergency after detection of smoke in the aircraft's cargo hold," he said.

"The pilot requested to make an emergency landing and the control tower and CAA personnel responded immediately given the nature of the problem," Rehman said.

As the runway was cleared for emergency landing, a flight from Doha, bound to land in Karachi, had to continue circling overhead for a while. PTI

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Log to www.newindianexpress.com

IN THE COURT OF THE V Addl. CITY CIVIL COURT (CCH-13) AT BANGALORE
P. & S. C. No. 74/2022
Between: Mrs. GEETHA V. W/o. Manjunath, Aged about 47 years, Resident at: No. 12-13, Dwarika Nagar 1st stage, Near Chiguru Pre School, Channarayana Rajarajeshwari Nagar, Bengaluru-560098
And Nil
...PETITIONER
...RESPONDENT
PUBLIC NOTICE
Whereas the above named Petitioner has made petition to this court under Sec 276 of Indian Succession Act seeking grant of Probate of the registered Will of Late. Mr. Sachidananda Murthy D. N. dated 6/11/2019 registered before Basavangudi Sub-Registrar. The below mentioned schedule was held by the Testator who expired on 18/11/2021. Interested parties are hereby called to appear in this court in person or by pleader duly instructed on 11/04/2022 at 11 A.M. before this Hon'ble Court CCH-13 inform to show cause against the Petitioner failing wherein the appearance will be heard and declared Ex-parte.
SCHEDULE PROPERTY
Residential property bearing No. Site No. 81, Block II, in Banashankari, 1 stage Bangalore-560050. Extension measuring East to west 51' 12" 64 1/4 Sq. Ft. and North to South 44' 48 1/2 Sq. Ft. totally approximately measuring 2438 Sq. Ft. and having a built-up area approximately 1200 Sq. Ft. comprising of Ground floor bounded by:
East by: Site No. 82
North by: Road
South by: Site No. 80
Given under my hand and seal of the court on this 4th day March 2022.
By the order of the court
Authorized Officer, City Civil Court Bangalore
Manasi Sharma, No. 6, Vishwanath Rao Road, Off Race Course Road, Madhavanager, Bangalore-560001

PUBLIC NOTICE
TO WHOMSOEVER IT MAY CONCERN
This is to inform the General Public that following share certificate (name of Company) **Pramal Enterprises Ltd** having its Registered Office at Pramal Ananta, Agastya Corporate Park, Opposite Fire Brigade, Kamani Junction, LBS Marg, Kurla (West) Mumbai Maharashtra-400070 registered in the name of the following Shareholder/s have been lost by them.
Sr. No. 1. Name of the Shareholder/s R.G. Shah Folio No. RH00015 Certificate No./s 45398 Distinctive Number/s 24314336 - 24314495 No. of Shares 160
2. R.G. Shah, 00019842, 55703, 209079868 - 209079872, 5
The Public are hereby cautioned against purchasing or dealing in any way with the above referred share certificates.
Any person who has any claim in respect of the said share certificate/s should lodge such claim with the Company or its Registrar and Transfer Agents Link Intime India Pvt. Ltd, C 101, 247 Park, L.B.S. Marg, Vikhroli (West), Mumbai, Maharashtra, 400083 within 15 days of publication of this notice after which no claim will be entertained and the Company shall proceed to issue Duplicate Share Certificate/s.
Place: Bangalore
Date : 17.03.2022 Name of share holder, R.G. Shah

NOTICE
NOTICE is hereby given that the Certificate(s) for 350594 Equity share Nos. 100 Folio no - 07313764 of Larsen & Toubro Ltd standing in the name(s) of LATE - K.H. NAGARAJ have been lost or mislaid and the undersigned have applied to the company to issue duplicate certificate(s) for the said shares. Any person who has any claim in respect of the said shares should write to our Registrar, KFIN TECHNOLOGIES PVT LTD, Selenium Tower, B plot - 31-32, Gachibowli, Financial District, Hyderabad - 500032. Within one month from this date else the company will proceed to issue duplicate Certificate(s)
Name of shareholder(s) K N SATISH SARASWATHY K N PRASHANTH K N
Date: 22/03/2022

PUBLIC NOTICE
LOST ORIGINAL SALE DEED
ORIGINAL SALE DEED belongs to owner MADHU LINGAM, aged about 51 years S/o Kakirajan, R/at No. 16 Gowdana Palya, Subramanapuram, Bangalore-560061.
Lost Original Sale Deed of Site No. S/L No. 241/11, Property No. 32 situated at Chikka Nagarangala Village, Senaranga Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Measuring East to West 40 feet, North to South 30 Feet, Total measuring 1200 Sq. Ft., Bounded on East by: Road, West by: Property No. 37, North by: Property No. 33, South by: Property No. 31, registered as Document No. 21648/04-05, CD No. ANKD 46, date : 7-1-2005, in the office of the Sub-Registrar, Anekal, has been lost on 11-02-2022 at Jayanagar 4th Block, Bangalore. In this regard Online Police Complaint lodged U/s 155 cr.PC Vide Lost Report No. 017751/2022, date: 9/3/2022
U. PRASANNA KUMAR, Advocate No. 129, 13th Main, 29th Cross, Banashankari 2nd Stage, Bangalore-560070. Mob: 9242144907 or 9448419542

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MAHILA CO-OPERATIVE BANK LTD.
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Phone: 23562229 / 23460051
CORRIGENDUM
Attention is drawn to our publication of "SALE CUM AUCTION OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY" in The New Indian Express on 20.03.2022, in the account of 1) Sri.K.V Ramanamurthy (Borrower) & others, 2) Sri Manjunath M (Borrower) & others, in the event of Schedule-I part-B debts and the costs of sale being tendered by the borrower on or before mentioned as 03.02.2022 but it is to be read as 05.04.2022 before 4.00 PM the Authorized Officer would stop the sale & in Conditions of Sale Point No.9 below in star mark, Sealed tenders must be reached the Authorized Officer at the address mentioned above on mentioned as 4.00 PM 03.02.2022 but it is to be read as 4.00 PM 05.04.2022 and also in that the bids will be opened on mentioned as 04.02.2022 by 10.30 AM but it is to be read as 06.04.2022 by 10.30 AM. In so far as all other details of the "SALE CUM AUCTION OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY" referred above is concerned, the same shall remain unchanged.
Date: 20.03.2022 Authorized Officer
Place: Bangalore Mahila Co-Operative Bank Ltd.,
QuoteExpress NEVER COMPLAIN AND NEVER EXPLAIN
> BEN JAMIN DISRAELI

KERALA WATER AUTHORITY e-Tender Notice
Tender No: 36/SE/PHCK/2021-22. JIM - 2020-21 - WSS to VAKATHANAM Panchayath-PACKAGE 3 - Supply, Installation and Commissioning of 2 Nos. of 1600 KVA, 3.3KV and 1 No. of 63 KVA, 440V indoor transformers, 2 Nos. of Suitable HP VT pump sets and allied works in 12m dia well cum pump house at Peroor. EMD : Rs. 2,00,000/- . Tender fee : Rs. 10,000/- 18% GST- GST to be paid by the contractor on reverse charge basis while filing his returns. Last Date for submitting Tender : 19-04-2022 03:00 pm. Phone : 0481 2562745 Website : www.kwa.kerala.gov.in www.etenders.kerala.gov.in
KWA-JB-GL-6-1254-2021-22 Superintending Engineer, PH Circle, Kottayam

Ajmer Vidyut Vitran Nigam Limited
Corporate Identification Number (CIN) : U40109RJ2000SC016482 (Regd. Office: Vidyut Bhawan, Panchsheel Nagar, Makarwal Road, Ajmer-305004) Office of The Addl. Chief Engineer (Projects) Room no. 105, Vidyut Bhawan, Panchsheel Nagar, Makarwal Road, Ajmer-305004 Website : http://www.enrgy.rajasthan.gov.in/vnrl, Email : cprojectajmer2019@gmail.com
Tender Notice
The NIT DSM-02 for empainment of Vendors for "Design, supply, erection, testing & commissioning including warranty, Comprehensive O&M of Grid-Connected Rooftop Solar Plant of various capacities under the Phase-II of GCRTS of MNRE for allocated RTS Capacity of 55,000 kWp (25MWp) for Jaipur DistCom, 15MWp for each of Ajmer & Jodhpur DistCom in Rajasthan against TN-DSM-02" is hereby invited from eligible bidders. The relevant details and specification of tender shall be available on Nigam web site http://www.enrgy.rajasthan.gov.in/ajvnl and Rajasthan E-Proc web site http://cpes.rajasthan.gov.in. UBN No.: AVV2122WLR00442 Addl. Chief Engineer (Project) Raj.Samwadh/C/21/13115 Ajmer DistCom, Ajmer.

EU nations slam Russia's 'war crimes'

BRUSSELS

EUROPEAN Union countries on Monday accused the Russian armed forces of committing war crimes in Ukraine, but appeared unlikely to impose new sanctions on Moscow despite a clamour across Europe for those responsible for attacks on civilians to be held to account.

With civilian deaths mounting in the besieged port city of Mariupol, German Foreign

Minister Annalena Baerbock highlighted the increase in Russian attacks on civilian infrastructure, including hospitals and theatres.

"The courts will have to decide, but for me these are clearly warcrimes," Baerbock said.

Before chairing a meeting of the 27-nation bloc's foreign ministers here, EU foreign policy chief Josep Borrell said "what's happening in Mariupol is a massive war

crime. Destroying everything, bombarding and killing everybody in an indiscriminate manner. This is something awful." The encircled southern city on the Sea of Azov has seen some of the worst horrors of the war.

Multiple attempts to evacuate residents from Mariupol have failed or only partly succeeded. City officials said at least 2,300 people had died in the siege, with some buried in mass graves. AP

Blow to Crypto as govt says loss can't be set off

Crypto exchanges call measures "detrimental" for the industry

UMA KANNAN @ Bengaluru

THE government on Monday said that crypto investors would not be able to set off losses in one crypto asset against the gains from another asset.

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman had announced the same in the budget. The crypto community was hopeful that they would get some clarity on taxation, but Minister of State for Finance Pankaj Chaudhary informed the Lok Sabha on Monday that loss from the transfer of virtual digital assets (VDA) will not be allowed to be set off against the income arising from transfer of another VDA.

Crypto exchanges say that these stringent measures are "detrimental" for the crypto industry. The new cryptocurrency rule, which includes 30% tax and 1% TDS on VDA, is expected to be implemented from April 1, 2022.

Investors need to pay a 30% tax for every gain they make, while for losses, the tax is not



deductible from the final taxation amount. "If you have made losses with ETH (Ethereum), you cannot sell it off with your profits in ADA (cardano). This step will also cut down the small percentage of miners in the country because of the high tax rates and electricity charges," said Edul Patel, CEO and Co-founder of Mudrex.

The crypto community opines that taxes imposed by the government are quite harsh for the VDA industry, and that this will lead to a decline of the blockchain industry in India.

"This will discourage a lot of investors as it increases their risk and decreases the end reward. This would disincentivize them from trading with Indian exchanges and deal only with foreign exchanges or decentralised exchanges," said Bhagaban Behera, CEO and Co-founder of Defy.

The Minister of State for Finance also said that cryptocurrencies are unregulated in India.

Ashish Singhal, Co-founder and CEO, CoinSwitch said that the lack of provision to offset losses will drive away users from KYC-compliant exchanges and platforms to the underground peer-to-peer grey market, which would defeat the purpose of the tax.

The budget recognised VDAs as an emerging asset class. Therefore, a natural course of action would have been to progressively bring the regulations at par with other asset classes. Instead, today, with this clarification, we have taken a step backwards, he added.

IT companies set to call employees back to office

UMA KANNAN @ Bengaluru

IT firms in India are showing keen interest to bring their employees back to offices in a phased manner. When the pandemic struck in March 2020, all companies including the IT sector asked their employees to work from home. Though companies are now focusing on the hybrid model, they are also gearing up to welcome their workforce back to offices.

In an email to employees, US-headquartered IT company Cognizant Technology Solutions told its associates that they will be providing additional guidance in the coming weeks on returning to the office. "Over the past several weeks, we have seen govern-



ments around the world ease Covid-19 restrictions, which we hope signals that the end of the pandemic is in sight. In line with these changes, and based on business demand, we will no longer require social distancing in cognizant facilities, unless required by local regulations or at the discretion of country managers," Cognizant

TCS TO ADOPT 25X25 HYBRID WORK MODEL

The IT company said that it is committed to adopting the 25X25 model, which will require not more than 25% of associates to work from office at any given point in time, and they need not spend more than 25% of their time in the office.

told employees.

Earlier in December last year, Cognizant CEO Brian Humphries said we will begin to return to office in April 2022. The firm, which employs over 2 lakh people in India, said they will adopt a hybrid work model as part of its return to office efforts. Infosys too has been focusing on the hybrid model.

When asked about Tata Consultancy Services' (TCS) plans to bring employees back to work, Milind Lakkad, Chief HR Officer, TCS, said that they will be getting their employees back to offices in the coming months.

"We are already starting to encourage our associates to return to their respective offices and depute branches. We look forward to seeing our campuses bustling with young energy in the coming months, across all our global offices spread across 46 countries," he said.

The firm said it is committed to adopting the 25X25 model, which will require just 25% of associates to work from office at any given point in time, and they need not spend more than 25% of their time in the office.

TODAY'S STOCK PICK

TATA CONSUMER

Current Price

₹748.50

Target Price

₹910

Disclaimer: The views and recommendations made above are that of the individual analyst or broking company, and not that of *The New Indian Express*.



The unlocking of sales and distribution synergies from the merger of group companies has started to yield results. This is evident from the market share increase in Tea (+160bp YoY) and Salt (+476bp YoY) as of Dec'21 backed by an increase in numeric distribution. We expect a sales/EBITDA/PAT CAGR of 9%/17%/21% over FY21-24E, respectively. We maintain BUY.

— Motilal Oswal Securities Limited

RUCHI SOYA FIXES FPO PRICE AT 33% DISCOUNT

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ New Delhi

PATANJALI Ayurved-controlled Ruchi Soya Industries is all set to hit the capital market with a ₹4,300-crore follow-on offer on March 24.

The edible oil maker has fixed a price band at ₹615 to ₹650 per share for its follow-on public offer (FPO), which is at over 30% discount when compared with its Monday's closing price of ₹910. At the upper end, Patanjali, which now owns 98.9% of the company, will dilute around 19% and 18% at the lower end of the price band.

To meet the mandatory 25% public float, the remaining 67%, will be diluted before the Sebi deadline of December 2022. Ruchi will pay back ₹3,300 crore of debt of the issuer and the rest will go for various corporate purposes.

Baba Ramdev, the face and founder of Patanjali Ayurved, said Ruchi Soya is no more just a commodity company and that the company has FMCG, food business and nutraceuticals among other verticals. According to

Ramdev, the company will address both masses and classes as their endeavour is to make Ruchi and Patanjali global food brands.

Few brokerages, however, are not very excited about the FPO given its objective is to repay company's borrowings and fund working capital requirements.

"If we look at the valuations then the stock is trading with a PE of around 32

which is lower than the industry average. Patanjali group wants to make this FPO successful so that they can come out with more FPOs successfully where as they are also likely to come out with IPOs of their other segments. We have a neutral rating for this FPO however aggressive investors can apply for the long term," said Aayush Agrawal, research analyst - Merchant Banking, Swastika Investmart.

What's also worrying for Ruchi Soya in the short term is the on-going Russian-Ukraine conflict as India's 90% sunflower oil requirement is catered by Ukraine and Russia and Sunflower oil comprises 15-20% of major edible oil brands.

The stock is trading with a PE of around 32... We have a neutral rating for this FPO, however, aggressive investors can apply for the long term

Aayush Agrawal, research analyst

Bank of India picks up 9% in bad bank

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ New Delhi

BANK of India (BoI) has picked up a 9% stake in National Asset Reconstruction Company Limited (NARCL), the asset reconstruction company incorporated to acquire bad loans from commercial banks.

The government-owned BoI said in an exchange filing that it has invested ₹109 crore in NARCL under preferential share issuance. "As a result of the equity participations, the shareholding of the bank in the company will come to 9.00% of

total shareholding of NARCL as on 21 March 2022," the bank said in the statement.

The bank will acquire 12.68 crore equity shares of ₹10 each in NARCL, which is also known as bad bank.

NARCL is largely owned by public sector banks, which together own 51% in the asset reconstruction company. NARCL acquires bad loans from commercial banks and transfers them to Indian Debt Resolution Company Ltd (IDRCL)

for resolution.

State-owned banks -- State Bank of India, Union Bank of India and PNB -- together hold close to 30% in NARCL, while Canara Bank is the largest shareholder with 12% stake.

NARCL, which got all its regulatory approvals in January this year, was supposed to be operational by now with 15 bad loans accounts amounting to ₹51,000 to be transferred in the current financial year. However, the transfer is yet to take



'SWISS BANKING SECRECY IS A THING OF PAST'

CONTINUED FROM P1

THE Swiss court had earlier ordered release of information regarding the bank accounts of Anil Ambani, his wife Tina Ambani and their two sons Jai Anmol Anil Ambani and Jai Anshul Anil Ambani. The court had, however, directed not to release in public the names of Anil Ambani and his family. But Swiss investigative media outlets fished out the names from court records and put them out in public domain.

Late last year, the court had rejected a request by Kokilaben, mother of Mukesh and Anil Ambani, to anonymise her name while supplying information about her Swiss accounts to the Indian government. The request for Kokilaben's Swiss bank accounts was first made by India in 2012, but it was denied by the Swiss Federal Tax Administration. The government of India tried again in 2018. This time the Swiss authorities agreed to give the requested information on December 28, 2021. This is when Kokilaben requested that her name be held back on the ground that it would create a "big stir" in India. She had also claimed that her personality was affected as her "reputation had been attacked".

Sources said the famous Swiss banking secrecy is a thing of the past and the information so far received is just the beginning. They said the government was working on getting details of many more wealthy Indians.

Govt assessing interest of investors for sale of stake in IDBI Bank

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ New Delhi

THE government is yet to invite expression of interest (EOI) for sale of its stake in IDBI Bank, and is gauging interest of investors through road shows, it informed the parliament today.

Answering the questions raised by Members of Parliament, minister of state for finance Bhagwat Kishtanrao Karad informed the parliament that pursuant to the Cabinet Committee on Eco-

nomics Affairs' approval in May 2021 for the strategic disinvestment of the government and LIC's shareholding in IDBI Bank, road shows are currently being held to assess the investors' interest before floating the Expression of Interest (EOI). Finance Ministry officials had earlier said that EOI for disinvestment in IDBI would be invited in April 2022.

The government and Life Insurance Corporation together hold 94.71% with LIC acquiring

controlling stake in the bank. The government has decided to go for strategic disinvestment of both government and LIC shareholding in IDBI Bank along with transfer of management control.

"It is expected that the strategic buyer will infuse funds, new technology and best management practices for optimal development of business potential and growth of IDBI Bank Ltd. and shall generate more business without dependence on LIC and government for capital," the minister said.



Zomato launches 10-minute food delivery offering

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ Bengaluru

ONLINE food delivery platform Zomato, which recently extended a \$150 million loan to quick commerce platform Blinkit, on Monday announced the launch of Zomato Instant- 10-minute food delivery.

"Innovating and leading from the front is the only way to survive (and therefore thrive) in the tech industry. And here we are with Zomato Instant," said Deepinder Goyal, co-founder and CEO of Zomato.

Customers are increasingly demanding quicker answers to their needs. They don't want to

plan, and they don't want to wait, he said, adding that after becoming a frequent customer of Blinkit, he started feeling that the 30-minute average delivery time by Zomato is too slow, and will soon have to become obsolete.

Zomato Instant will be started off with four stations in Gurugram from next month. Each of the finishing stations will house 20-30 dishes from various restaurants based on demand predictability and hyperlocal preferences.

Last week, Zomato extended a \$150 million loan to Blinkit, which is in a severe cash



crunch. Zomato has been investing aggressively in many start-ups.

Zomato also recently announced that it is acquiring a 16.66% stake in Mukunda Foods for \$5 million. Mukunda

is a food robotics company that designs and manufactures smart robotic equipment to automate food preparation for restaurants.

It has also invested in ad-tech firm Adonmo, a new age start-up pioneering a technology fuelled transformation in outdoor advertising, and B2B software platform UrbanPiper.

These investments are part of the company's strategy to invest in start-ups. In 2021, Zomato said it plans to invest \$1 billion in start-ups over the next two years and earlier it had invested in Curefit and Shiprocket.

Adani Green raises \$288 mn, widens construction facility pool to \$1.64 bn

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ New Delhi

ADANI Green Energy Ltd (AGEL) on Monday informed it has extended its Construction financing framework to \$1.64 billion by raising a \$288 million facility for its under-construction renewable asset portfolio through definitive agreements signed with a group of leading international lenders.

The company said the facility will initially finance the 450 MW hybrid portfolio of solar and wind renewable projects

that AGEL is setting up in Rajasthan, India. In March 2021, AGEL had closed a \$1.35 billion construction revolver facility in one of Asia's largest project financing deals.

"We are committed to sustainable growth and to catalysing energy transition. AGEL has set a target of achieving 45 GW renewable energy capacity by 2030, representing 10% of the Govt of India's 450GW countrywide renewable energy target. Our development agenda is in sync with overall capital

stewardship maintained through our capital management philosophy focused on sustainable growth," said Vneet S Jaan, MD and CEO, AGEL. As per the definitive agreements, 7 international banks -- BNP Paribas, Coöperatieve Rabobank U.A., Intesa Sanpaolo S.p.A., MUFG Bank, Ltd., Societe Generale, Standard Chartered Bank and Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation -- committed for the facility which is a certified green hybrid project loan.



EXPRESS READ

PNB board to consider debt raising plan for FY23

New Delhi: Punjab National Bank will convene a meeting later this month to decide on its capital raising plan through debt for the next fiscal year. "The meeting of the board of directors of the company is scheduled on 29 March 2022, to consider and approve the proposal for raising of capital through the issuance of Basel-III compliant additional tier-1 bonds and/or tier-2 bonds or a combination thereof..." PNB said.

PhonePe announces acquisition of Gigindia

New Delhi: Digital payments platform PhonePe on Monday announced that it has acquired Gigindia, a network for freelance micro-entrepreneurs. As part of the acquisition, Gigindia, which has 1.5 million entrepreneurs and over 100 enterprises as customers, will integrate with PhonePe, the company said in a statement. It did not divulge the size of the buyout.



One of the world's top chess players has been banned from competitions for six months over his support for Russia's invasion of Ukraine. Russia's Sergey Karjakin, a former challenger for the world title, expressed "complete support" for Russian president Vladimir Putin in an open letter after Russia sent troops into Ukraine and has posted regularly on social media in support of Russia.

Greater test for Lakshya begins now: Padukone

Badminton great delighted with youngster's dramatic rise, but says bigger challenge is maintaining his current level of play

ASHIM SUNAM @ Bengaluru

INDIA shuttler Lakshya Sen is undergoing a purple patch. The 20-year-old, who trains at the Prakash Padukone Badminton Academy (PPBA) in Bengaluru, is climbing the ranking charts almost every week.

Besides, he has been showing his class against some of the big names in the world of badminton. One look at his performance in the last four months narrates a clear picture. Since his bronze medal win at the BWF World Championships, he has played 15 matches, losing just twice and the latest defeat was against Viktor Axelsen in the All England Open final on Sunday.

Lakshya's dream of becoming the third male singles player from India to win the All England title was dashed by the Dane, but he won hearts with his visible determination and fighting qualities in the last few months. After impressive performances in different competitions, the confidence level has certainly increased after wins over top players, including Axelsen and Anders Antonsen recently. Former India great Prakash Padukone, also the founder of PPBA, lauded the youngster for his recent showings, but warned about the greater challenges going forward.

"The recent leg of European tournaments have been very successful for Lakshya as he has beaten some of the players ranked within the top 5 in the world. This shows that his bronze medal victory at the World Championships a few months ago was not just a flash in the pan. Over the past six months, he has been one of the



SWISS OPEN

Lakshya won't be taking part in the Swiss Open that begins on Tuesday. The 20-year-old from Almora made back-to-back final appearances at the German Open and All England Championships in the last two weeks. Lakshya was scheduled to face fellow Indian Sameer Verma in his campaign opener. The likes of PV Sindhu and Kidambi Srikanth will be among Indians who'll be looking for positive returns during the BWF Super 300 event in Basel.

most consistent performers since the international circuit resumed. This is never an easy task, especially for a youngster like Lakshya. He has truly announced his arrival on the world stage, but the greater challenge for him, begins now," the former All England Open winner said.

In fact, his game has improved in the last 12 months and his two-week training stint with Axelsen in Dubai added to his game as well. But given the demanding nature of the sport, things are not going to be easy.

His competitors must have taken note of his strengths and weaknesses as well.

He is currently ranked 11 in the world and in order to remain inside the top five or top ten, the Almora shuttler has to be consistent, something that many talents struggle to maintain. It is also going to be a test of his mental strength when results do not go in his favour.

"From my own experience, I can say with conviction that reaching the highest level is difficult, but the bigger challenge is staying at that level as it requires a lot more effort and mental strength. However, Lakshya has all the qualities required to remain a medal contender for the next few years. He is hard working, focussed, disciplined, dedicated, grounded and most importantly, mentally very strong even while playing against players ranked higher. He has shown this quality in abundance, especially in the last two tournaments that he has played," said Padukone, who wants the youngster to continue his ultimate quest for Olympic glory.

GOMESH S @ Chennai

AS Pakistan got the better of the West Indies in a rain-affected 20-over encounter to end their 18-match losing streak in ODI World Cups on Monday (first win in the event since 2009), the result would have made quite a few teams, including India, happy. The Mithali Raj-led side have destiny in their own hands, and the same applies for England. New Zealand, too, aren't out yet.

But more than the result, the Indian contingent would have been keen to note how the teams played on a pitch that was under covers for the better part of the day as they take on Bangladesh on the same surface on Tuesday. Despite the persistent downpour and outfield filled with water, the ground staff ensured a 20-over contest on Monday. With India's match being a day-night one, despite the high probability



Poonam Yadav

ity of rain and thunderstorms, there could still be a match, albeit a shortened one.

And the clash being a must-win one, India will have to make some radical changes to their bowling attack to make the most of the conditions. On Monday, of the 39 overs that were bowled, 26 were from spinners. In the first innings, Bismah Maroof reaped rewards on a slow and low surface that offered turn by using four spinners, who shared six of the seven wickets that fell.

IPL 4 DAYS TO GO

Sunrisers looking for a new dawn

Sunrisers Hyderabad made some bold calls going into the 2022 IPL edition by parting with some of their star players. After the mega auction, the franchise will look to reboot after a forgettable campaign where they finished at rock bottom...

POST-WARNER ERA

The fallout between Sunrisers Hyderabad and David Warner disrupted their season last year as the love story came to a bitter end. He went on to lose his place in the XI while Kane Williamson was entrusted with captaincy full-time. The departure of Rashid Khan raised eyebrows as Sunrisers were left with big boots to fill. They chose to retain Abdul Samad and Umran Malik while making some interesting purchases with the likes of Nicholas Pooran, Washington Sundar and Rahul Tripathi. Sunrisers' bowling has always been their strength and they chose to bolster it this time too. The arrival of Marco Jansen, Sean Abbott and Kartik Tyagi alongside Bhuvneshwar Kumar and T Natarajan gives them plenty of options in the pace department.

IN KANE THEY TRUST

Williamson has been entrusted with leading a new-look squad with a lot of young faces. However, the batting department continues to raise the biggest questions. Sunrisers chose to part with Warner, Bairstow and Manish Pandey who formed the spine of their top order in recent seasons alongside Williamson. The likes of Pooran, Tripathi and Aiden Markram are experienced and would be expected to shoulder a lot of the run-scoring burden.



NEW START

A big concern for them would be the fitness of their captain Kane Williamson, who has been battling a few injury concerns in the last few months. It is crucial for SRH that Williamson stays fit as they look to start a new chapter after the disappointments of last season.

er, she could come in handy as all the four teams they have faced so far have used a wrist spinner and the subcontinent side have struggled to get going against them. Case in point, West Indies' Afy Fletcher, who took three wickets for 29 runs in 10 overs.

India could bring Yadav in place of Meghna Singh or Jhulan Goswami, if they chose to manage the workload of the veteran pacer, with Pooja Vas-trakar playing the lead pacer role.

Will they persist with Shafali Verma or bring in Deepti for her? It might all come down to how long the game goes. Either way, all India would be hoping for is an opportunity to play and bag two points to keep their campaign alive, irrespective how many overs they get.

Liverpool vs City in FA Cup semifinal

AFP @ London

LIVERPOOL and Manchester City's bid for historic trophy-winning hauls will clash in the FA Cup semifinal at Wembley next month after coming through their last eight ties in differing fashion on Sunday.

City finally got the better of Southampton at the third attempt this season with a 4-1 win, while Liverpool needed a late Diogo Jota strike to see off Championship side Nottingham Forest 1-0.

Forest had dumped out holders Leicester and Arsenal on their run to the last eight and could easily have caused another shock had the fine margins gone their way at the City Ground.

Vismaya and Jisna set to mark return with IGP-2

MARTIN JOSEPH @ Kochi

PRIYA Mohan, one of the star performers in the Indian Grand Prix-1, is set to face stiff competition of IGP-2 thanks to the returning Jisna Mathew and Vismaya VK.

Alongside Poovamma Raju, the women's 400m will be one of the most closely fought events in the meet which will be held on Wednesday in Thiruvananthapuram.

Priya had stormed to victory in the first meet of the campaign and while she remains the favourite, the likes of Jisna and Vismaya will be expected to give the youngster a tough fight. The 19-year-old had finished with a timing of 52.91s which helped her better the qualification mark for the Asian Games.

Meanwhile, in the men's 400m, Amoj Jacob is one of the biggest names missing. The Delhi sprinter had won it at the first Indian Grand Prix but had some discomfort after the race was completed.

Noah Nirmal Tom is among the biggest names in the category. Noah had managed to finish second at the season opener and will continue to focus on fitness after easing his way on to the track after being down with Covid.

"There is no major injury concern. After the race in IGP-1, I didn't want to risk too much because I am slowly returning to action and it is as a precautionary measure that I am giving this meet a miss. I am targeting



Jisna Mathew | AFI

the Federation Cup as my next competition now and I should be in good condition by the time it comes around," said Amoj.

Besides, Amoj, Muhammed Anas will be missing in action for the second straight meet. Anas was one of the main athletes missing from IGP-1, and once again, the 27-year-old will be missing in action.

Another big name who will be hoping for a good outing is Dutte Chand, who is set to feature in the women's 100m. Dutte is expected to receive tough competition from Dhanalakshmi in the event. The Tamil Nadu sprinter had pipped Hima Das in the 200m at IGP-1 and all eyes will be on the battle between the two. Full story: newindianexpress.com

EXPRESS READ

Fritz shrugs off injury to beat Nadal in final

INDIAN WELLS: Taylor Fritz's stubborn streak stood him in good stead as he worked through a painful ankle injury in time to see off Spanish great Rafael Nadal in the ATP Indian Wells Masters final. His coach urged him not to potentially risk damaging his sore ankle further.

Seven new faces in India squad for friendlies

NEW DELHI: India named seven newcomers in the squad for football friendlies against Bahrain and Belarus this month. National men's coach Igor Stimac has called up Prabhshukhan Gill, Hormipam Ruivah, Anwar Ali, Roshan Singh, VP Suhair, Danish Farooq, and Aniket Yadav.

Auba scores twice as Barcelona thrash Real Madrid

MADRID: Barcelona stunned Real Madrid with a 4-0 victory on Sunday as Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang scored twice in a Clasico demolition at Santiago Bernabeu. The match was billed as a test of Barca's progress under Xavi Hernandez and they passed with flying colours.

Male wrestlers' trials in Delhi on March 24

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Chennai

THE Wrestling Federation of India (WFI) will hold selection trials for the upcoming Asian Championships for freestyle and Greco-Roman grapplers at IG Stadium in New Delhi instead of Sonapat's Sports Authority of India (SAI) complex. Given the expected number of participants and availability of infrastructure, the WFI has decided to hold the trials in New Delhi instead of Sonapat, where the wrestlers are camping since February first week.

The men's trials are scheduled for Thursday while the trials for the women wrestlers will be held at Lucknow SAI centre the next day. The continental championship is slated from April 19 to 24 in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia.

"It's difficult to hold the trials in Sonapat as it doesn't have the infrastructure and facility to accommodate such a large number of participants. IG Stadium is the perfect venue, so the trials will be held there," a WFI source confirmed to this daily. "Lucknow, where the women wrestlers are camping, will host the trials for them," the source added.

All elite wrestlers including Tokyo Olympics medallists — Ravi Dahiya (57kg, silver) and Bajrang Punia (65kg, bronze) — will compete in the trials to book their respective places in the national squad. In fact, Bajrang will be seen in action for the first time this year during the trials. Full story: newindianexpress.com

PUBLIC NOTICE

My client SRI. R.K. JAYARAM, aged about 51 Years, S/o. Krishnappa, R/A: M Ramapura, Ambli, Kolar, Karnataka-563132, is intending to purchase the Schedule Property from its owners SRI. MUNI HANUMAIIAH, aged about 44 years, S/o. Sri. Chikka Anjanappa, R/A: Near Anjaneyana Temple, Bynahalli, Chikka, Jidla Post, Bangalore North Taluk-562157 and SRI. NARASIMHA MURTHY R., aged about 44 years, S/o. Sri. Ramachandrapa, R/A: No. 46, Lakshmi Tent Road, Ramamurthy Nagar, Bangalore-560016. For Valuable Consideration. Any persons having any rights/claims/objections/Minor Claims, in respect of the schedule property are hereby requested to send their objections to the above mentioned address within 6 days, from the receipt of this public notice. If no objections are forthcoming within 6 days, my client shall get executed sale deed in his favour.

SCHEDULE
All the piece and parcel of the Property bearing Portion of Property No. 168/1, Khata No. 168/1/1, Situated at Bidarhalli Village, Bidarhalli Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk, Bangalore, Measuring East to West on the Northern Side 36 feet 6 inches and on the Southern Side 39 feet and North to South on the Eastern Side 59 feet and on the Western Side 63 feet 6 inches, totally measuring 2312.18 square feet and bounded on the East by Property of Late BYRAPPA, West by Property of RAMANAJAH, North by Road, South by Property of ABDUL KADHER.

Mr. Manjunath Reddy, Smt. T. Shobha Reddy, No. 8/7, Mega City BEM Layout Road, Maragondanahalli, Main Road, K.R. Puram Post, Bangalore-36, Ph: 9845520830, 7353233778, 9945399163

PUBLIC NOTICE

TO WHOMSOEVER IT MAY CONCERN
WHEREAS our clients have entered into an Agreement to purchase the immovable property bearing Municipal Khata No.9, P.I.D.No. 50-12-9, Anjaneyana Temple Road, V.V.Puram, Bengaluru - 560 004, measuring East to West - 26.75 feet, and measuring North to South: 42" feet, totally measuring 1,134.65 square feet, more fully described in the SCHEDULE PROPERTY herein, from its owners Smt. Geetha Ramesh, G.R. Pradeep and G.R. Praveen, who all inherited the same from their husband and father Late G.R. Ramesh. Whereas it is represented to our clients by the said owners that they are the absolute owners and are in peaceful possession and enjoyment of the Schedule Property, having a clear marketable title and that there are no encumbrances on the Schedule Property.
Any person or persons asserting any rights, title, interest or claims in the Schedule Property or any part thereof in any manner, shall lodge their objections and / or claims, in writing to the undersigned within SEVEN days from the date of this publication with all documentary proof on which they are basing and asserting their rights with regard to the Schedule Property or any part thereof. After the said period of SEVEN days, our clients will proceed to purchase the Schedule Property and any objections or claims received thereafter will not be valid and will not be binding on our clients.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY
All that piece and parcel of the immovable property bearing Municipal Khata No. 9, P.I.D.No.50-12-9, Anjaneyana Temple Road, V.V.Puram, Bengaluru - 560 004, measuring East to West - 26.75 feet, and measuring North to South: 42" feet, totally measuring 1,134.65 square feet, Old Ward No.50, New Ward No.143 (V.V.Puram) B.M.P., and bounded as follows:
On the East by: Private Property;
On the West by: Common Passage;
On the North by: Property No.10,
On the South by: Anjaneyana Temple Street. Sd/-

Narendra B. Gandhi, Gandhi & Associates, Advocates, 4th Floor, Lakshmi Complex, No. 40, K.R. Road, BENGALURU - 560 002. Phone: 2670 2253.

IKF HOME FINANCE LIMITED 1st Floor, #6-3-902/A, Plot No. 1, Near Yashoda Hospital, Raj Bhavan Road, Somajiguda, Hyderabad-500082. Ph: 040-23412083.	DEMAND NOTICE UNDER SECTION 13(2) OF THE SARFAESI ACT, 2002
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The below mentioned Borrowers, Co-borrowers and Guarantors have availed Loan(s) Facility(ies) from IKF Home Finance Limited by mortgaging their Immovable Properties and defaulted in repayment of the same. Consequently to your defaults your Loans were classified as Non Performing Assets by IKF Home Finance Limited and hence all its rights, title, interest, benefits due receivable from you as per document executed by you to avail the said Loan(s) along with the underlying security interest created in respect of the securities for repayment of the same. IKF Home Finance Limited has pursuant to the said Assignment and for the recovery of the outstanding dues, issued Demand Notice under Section 13(2) of the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Asset and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 (The Act). The contents of which are being published herewith as per Section 13(2) of the act read with Rules 3(1) of The Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 and as by way of Alternate service upon you.

Sl. No.	Name and Address of the Borrower, Co-Borrower, Guarantor and Loan Amount	Details of the Secured Asset	Demand Notice	Amount Due in Rs.
1	Mr. K. Durga Prasad S/o. Mr. Purna Rao (Borrower), Ph.No: 9900484446.	Schedule of the Property: All the piece and parcel of the property bearing Residential Flat no. 401, in the Fourth Floor consisting of 2 Bed Rooms in the building Known as "M.V.R. Residency" having super built up area 1000 square feet equipped with one parking along with 250 square feet Undivided share in the Property bearing, Sy No: 304/6, measuring 0-20 Guntas, (which is duly converted from agricultural purpose to non-agricultural residential purpose vide Conversion Order No: ALN/VEH/SH/481/2011-12 dated 02.03.2012, issued by the Special Deputy Commissioner, Bengaluru District Taluk, Now bearing BBMP Khatha No: 760, Municipal no:152, within the limits of BBMP, and bounded on: East By: Road, West By: Land in Sy No: 304/1, North By: Land in Sy No. 305, South By: Land in Sy No: 304/2 and 304/7.	17th March 2022	Rs.23,55,425/- (Rupees Twenty Three Lakhs Fifty Five Thousand Four Hundred Twenty Five Only) due and payable as on 15th March 2022

The Borrower/s and Co-Borrowers/Guarantors are therefore called upon to make payment of the above mentioned demanded amount with further interest as mentioned hereinabove in full within 60 days of this Notice failing which the undersigned shall be constrained to take action under the act to enforce the above mentioned securities. Please note that as per Section 13 (3) of The Said Act. In the meanwhile, you are restrained from transferring the above referred securities by way of sale, lease or otherwise without our consent.

Date: 21.03.2022
Place: Bangalore
Sd/- Authorised Officer
IKF HOME FINANCE LIMITED

ಅಲ್ಪಾವಧಿ ಚಿಂಡರ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ - I.F.T - KW- 3 & 4					
ಇ-ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರಮೆಂಟ್ ಚಿಂಡರ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ (ಸ್ವಾಂಸ್ಕರ ಪ್ರಾಕ್ಟೀಸಿಂಗ್ ಮುಖಾಂತರ)					
ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ರಾಜ್ಯಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ಪರವಾಗಿ ಲೋಕೋಪಯೋಗಿ ಇಲಾಖೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ನೋಂದಾಯಿತ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರಿಂದ ಈ ಕೆಳಗಿನ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳಿಗೆ e-Proc-ಸ್ವಾಂಸ್ಕರ ಪ್ರಾಕ್ಟೀಸಿಂಗ್ ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಚಿಂಡರನ್ನು ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಅರ್ಹ ಸಿವಿಲ್ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರು ಇ-ಆರ್ಟರ್ ಕೇಂದ್ರ ಅಥವಾ ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್ www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in ನಲ್ಲಿ ಪ್ರಕಟಿಸಿದಂತೆ ದಿನಾಂಕ ಹಾಗೂ ಇನ್ನುಳಿದ ವಿವರಗಳನ್ನು ವಿಜೃಂಭಿಸಿಕೊಂಡು ಚಿಂಡರಗಾಗಿ ಭಾಗವಹಿಸಬಹುದು. ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ವಿವರಗಳಿಗೆ ಸರಿಯಾದ ಕಛೇರಿಯಿಂದ ಮಾಹಿತಿ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದು. ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳ ಇನ್ನುಳಿದ ವಿವರಗಳು ಈ ಕೆಳಗಿನಂತಿವೆ.					
ಕ್ರ. ಸಂ.	ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳ ಹೆಸರು	ಅಂದಾಜು ಮೊತ್ತ ರೂ. ಲಕ್ಷಗಳಲ್ಲಿ	ಫಿಕ್ಸ್ ಮಾಡಿದ ಚಿಂಡರ ಸ್ವೀಕರಿಸುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ	ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಬಿಡ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ	ಆರ್ಥಿಕ ಬಿಡ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ
1	2	3	4	5	6
ಲೆಕ್ಕ ಪೀಠಿಕೆ 3054-MDR MAINTENANCE					
1	Improvement to road Hubballi-Haliyal-Kadapatti MDR from km 7.32 to 14.50 (in selected reaches) in Kundgol taluka dharwad district (Work Indent No. 150860).	60.00	29/03/2022	30/03/2022	31/03/2022
2	Improvement of road to SH-137 to Sherewad MDR from km 0.00 to 1.50 in Kundgol taluka dharwad district (Work Indent No.150859).	140.00	29/03/2022	30/03/2022	31/03/2022
ಲೆಕ್ಕ ಪೀಠಿಕೆ 3054-SH MAINTENANCE					
3	Construction of pakka gutter (CC Drain) in kundagol town on Navalgund banavasi Mugavalli state Highway 137 in kundagol taluka dharwad Dist. (Work Indent No.150851).	100.00	29/03/2022	30/03/2022	31/03/2022
ಸಹಿ/- (ಶ್ರೀ.ಎಂ.ವಿ. ಚೌಡ್ಹರಿ) ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ಇಂಜಿನಿಯರಿರು, ಲೋಕೋಪಯೋಗಿ ಇಲಾಖೆ, ಧಾರವಾಡ ವಿಭಾಗ, ಧಾರವಾಡ.					
ಮಾಸಾಂಶ/ಧಾರವಾಡ/ಎಂಎಂ/1170/2021-22					

Your Guide to Spicy Living **INDULGE** Every Friday with THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS



DAY'S DIARY

Happy birthday

Bestselling American author James Patterson, principally known for his thriller and suspense novels, was born on this day in 1947

FAMOUS WORKS

His enduring fictional characters and series include Alex Cross, Women's Murder Club, Michael Bennett, Maximum Ride, Middle School, and Ali Cross



ACHIEVEMENT

For his prodigious imagination and championship of literacy in America, Patterson was awarded the 2019 National Humanities Medal



RECOGNITION

He holds the record for No 1 New York Times bestsellers with 67 novels. He is also the recipient of an Edgar Allan Poe Award and nine Emmy Awards

Upendra's new film to release in April

PG 4

SKYWATCHERS

FROM LAUNCHING A STARTUP TO INDIVIDUALLY PREDICTING RAINFALL ACROSS KARNATAKA, MEET CLIMATE ENTHUSIASTS WHO ARE INTO WEATHER BLOGGING

SANATH PRASAD

ADITHYA Ramesh is an avid biker who loves to ride along the Western Ghats across Karnataka and Maharashtra border. As enjoyable as his rides were turning out to be, he often received heavy and destructive rainfalls that led him to his new-found interest. If you thought he became a mountain biker, then guessed wrong. He found his new passion of actually tracking rainfall numbers.

The pandemic has brought out a lot of hidden talents in many. While some became chefs, entrepreneurs, and inventors, Bengaluru also saw a rise in weather tracking and blogging.

Ramesh, an IT professional who took to weather forecasting in 2020, loves to track rainfall across the Western Ghats. "I always had the passion to time my monsoon bike rides and that is how I picked up interest in forecasting," he says, adding that the pandemic allowed him more time to track the rain patterns.

"I also provide a brief analysis of how the rainfall patterns change in a particular region compared to its previous year," says Ramesh, who uses Twitter to give weather updates.

Falling in love with weather blogging is also Adarsh Gowda, a stock broker. He was almost washed away on his two-wheeler during the October rains in the city. He ended up with a fracture but he also

fell in love with weather blogging. "After the accident, I realised that there is a lack of information on rain updates. I started wanting to know for myself but soon moved to helping others and providing accurate weather forecasts," Gowda says, adding that he weather blogging seriously since 2021. "I spend at least two hours at midnight tracking and analysing the weather forecast and tweeting it the next day," he adds.

It's not as easy as it looks though. Interestingly, weather enthusiasts point out that there have been unusual weather patterns during the pandemic, especially as the city witnessed above normal rainfall and less heat.

"The lockdown reduced pollution to some extent in the last

two years, making a marginal impact on Bengaluru's climate," adds Gowda.

Taking a more established front was Anantha Krishna and his team who started Frizzle Weather, a hyperlocal weather predictions website.

"We help individuals and businesses with hyperlocal weather predictions to make better decisions. Our blogs give insights on how logistics and goods can be managed effectively in locations with extreme weather conditions and how rains can play a spoilsport for outdoor games. It also helps one understand the impact of weather forecasting in tourism," explains Krishna, who launched the startup in his last year of college.

Meanwhile, Vijay Anand has been a weather enthusiast for

the past seven years but took to active weather blogging on Twitter only when the work-from-home model kicked in. "I used to talk about rainfall predictions with my flatmates and colleagues. But once the lockdown and subsequently the work-from-home system kicked in, I became vocal about weather predictions on social media. I got more bandwidth during lockdown to predict rainfall, assess wind speed and reasons for rainfall in Bengaluru," says Anand, a software engineer.



Our startup helps individuals and businesses with hyperlocal weather predictions to make better decisions. Our blogs give insights on how goods can be managed effectively in extreme weather conditions and how rain can play a spoilsport for outdoor games

Anantha Krishna, entrepreneur

I always had the passion to time my monsoon bike rides and that is how I picked up interest in forecasting
— Adithya Ramesh, IT professional



I started weather blogging for a cause and now it has become a passion. I spend two hours at midnight analysing the weather forecast and update people the next day — Adarsh Gowda, stock broker



I used to talk about rainfall predictions with my flatmates and colleagues. But once the lockdown and subsequently the work-from-home system kicked in, I became vocal about weather predictions on social media — Vijay Anand, software engineer



CITY READ

Minister conducts progress review meeting

Dr Murugesu Nirani, minister for large and medium scale industries of Karnataka, visited the MC&A office and conducted a progress review meeting of recently. During the meeting, Nirani gave inputs and guidance for organising the company's golden jubilee celebration programme and also provided additional steps to be taken to enhance the performance and profitability of the company.



Dance festival to conclude today

The 10th edition of the Attakalari India Biennial, supported by the department of Karnataka Tourism, is set to wrap up today at Bangalore International Centre, Domlur. The finale event, Scape, is a production of Japan Foundation and Attakalari Centre for Movement Arts (Bangalore). It will feature artists Hemabharathy Palani and Ryu Suzuki — two individuals who chronicle their urge to share their personal memories and experiences of people, objects, places and events while transcending the constraints of geography and language. For details, contact 99729 50973.



Reimaging India through voice

Meet the city-based podcaster who reimagines India's future in 'what ifs'

ANILA KURIAN

It was the year 2012 when she started listening to the podcast channel called RadioLab where they ask deep questions and use investigative journalism to seek answers. Fast-forward to 2021, she started her own podcast called *Imagine Tomorrow* where she features a variety of experts who use their backgrounds in science and technology to speculate India's future.

Meet Shreya Dasgupta, an independent science journalist, who has been selected as one of the ten winners in the Spotify Sound Up programme. She's one of the two from India and the only Bengalurean to be selected.

Speaking to *CE*, she says, "I love the medium that the audio world created. When I quit my desk job in 2020 and the pandemic hit, I finally created my own podcast challenge. I wanted it to be science-focused."

She learnt to produce a podcast through YouTube and other online resources. After which, she set up a home studio and started out her first season in 2021 with five episodes and two bonus ones.

"*Imagine Tomorrow* explores hypothetical scenarios in India that it may or may not be seen in the future. The idea was to make a podcast that is entertaining and not to predict but to dive deep with fun scenarios," she says.

In her pilot episode, she imagined what if Indian cities decide to expand in the under-

ground. "The cities are already expanding to the outskirts but there's a limit to how much more you can go. So why not look at a scenario where you go downward instead of upward," adds Dasgupta. She brought on urban planners, scientists, lawyers and psychologists to share their thoughts on the topic.

When she learnt that Spotify was looking for women creators to showcase their ideas, she signed up for it.

"The first phase was in October where we had mentors (and popular women podcasters) Mae Mariyam Thomas and Riya Mukherjee to guide us on how the episodes should be produced," she explains, adding that the participants had to work on a trailer and pitch deck to become a finalist.

"Now, we move on to the next phase which is most likely a six-week training programme, with a good studio, to improve the quality of episodes. I have my preparation ready with interviews, research and scripting," says Dasgupta.

Having come to Bengaluru 10 years ago as a wildlife researcher and pivoted into science journalism, later on, Dasgupta is thrilled to explore this new love of hers.

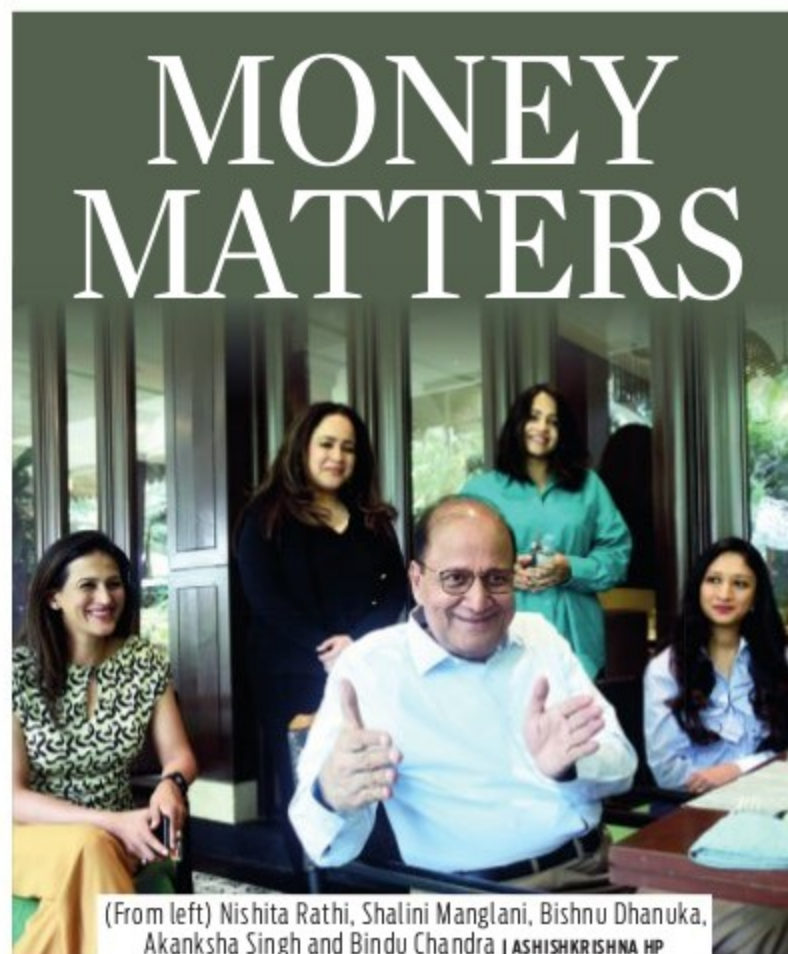
"I'll always be a journalist at heart. My podcast too is journalistic in principle. It's a skill to interview people, get a good story and understand its challenges and limitations. I hope to put out my next season soon and we have more scenarios imagined to explore," she signs off.

EXPRESS FEATURES

HOW will the Ukraine-Russia war conflict affect crude oil prices? "Is India going into stagflation?" "How will the war affect the stock market?" These were the questions that 50-odd women posed recently at a session on the effect of the Ukraine-Russia war on the stock market, organised by non-profit organisation that aims to empower women through financial literacy, Millennium Mams' discussed. These women were in discussion with businessman and brainchild of the organisation, Bishnu Dhanuka, at Taj West End on Race Course Road.

"The only certain thing that is certain is uncertainty. Every dip is not an opportunity for us. It's the preparedness that we focus on, after which we invest. We invest only in companies that follow Warren Buffett's principles. So short-term volatility is not our concern," says Dineet Dadu, a committee member.

Agrees nutritionist Shalini Manglani. The session for Manglani re-enforced her 'pledge' to not look at her portfolio until the Sensex stabilises as she is a long-term investor and should not be moved by changes that are temporary. "The stock mar-



(From left) Nishita Rathi, Shalini Manglani, Bishnu Dhanuka, Akanksha Singh and Bindu Chandra | ASHISH KRISHNA HP

ket scenario has changed and strong blue chips continue to prevail. Before and after the war, the India story was and continues to be impressive and I believe in it. After the session, I learnt of the opportunities in the electric vehicle sector and how robust it is. I also got an insight into the semiconductor story,

which was conveyed in the most simplified manner," she says.

This was also followed by a presentation by Preeti Agarwal, president of Millennium Mams', who discussed the Indian automobile industry and a case study of Tata Motors. The talking points included the geopolitical dis-

ruption and its effect on the automobile sector — in terms of semiconductors and electric vehicles, the impact of the battery swapping policy laid down in the budget and the resilience of the Indian automobile sector.

For Bindu Chandra, one of the members, Gaurav Hinduja's (co-founder and managing director of Capital Float) session on 'buy now, pay later' helped her understand that online consumption in India is growing and people in rural India with smaller pocket sizes will propel the India consumption story. This will help Indian Banks, Fintech Companies and NBFCs to grow in future. "The session helped us analyse the growing automobile sector with focus on semiconductor issues. Very bullish on the Indian economy due to the demographics of the country and particularly this sector," she says.

Meeting once a week on Zoom from the start of the pandemic, this group of women has sharpened their investment strategy. "Women are great investors. With this group, I've seen how much everyone is interested to keep learning and invest wisely," says Dhanuka, who encouraged the women to learn more about the different sectors, markets and stocks.



Arun Bhatia and Ravi Chandra



STARTUP WATCH

Backstory

MedPay is a Bengaluru-based healthcare startup launched in April 2020 by Ravi Chandra and Arun Bhatia. The startup aims to connect out patient department centres (clinics, pharmacies and diagnostic centres) with healthcare business (insurers, consultation platforms, hyperlocal aggregators etc) to create a robust healthcare ecosystem.

Target Audience

The startup is a B2B company operating a two-sided marketplace with more than 60,000 OPD centres on one side and several large healthcare businesses (like IICIL Lombard) on the other.

Finance Funda

The startup has so far raised \$1.2 million in funding from early-stage VC fund Entrepreneur First and GrowX.

USP

The startup aims to solve the challenge of lack of tech-enabled systems at clinics and pharmacies by providing an Application Programming Interface-based technology layer. It helps various partners like insurers and B2C companies to access the OPD network for hyperlocal services. It allows standalone clinics, pharmacies and diagnostic centres to digitally transact with neighbourhood customers.

WHAT WHEN WHY WHERE



COMEDY NIGHTS

Laugh out loud with Rishabh Kanishka, Debasish Rath, Siddhartha Agarwal and Joteen Patro as they entertain you at Kalagrah - House of Performing Arts during Sarjapur Comedy Nights.
When: March 26-28
Details: bookmyshow.com



NIGHT TREK

Want to do something different this weekend? Take the night and sunrise trek to Skandagiri, an 8-km trek which can be completed in four hours. **When:** March 25 **Details:** bookmyshow.com



FOOD ART

Join the miniature food art workshop where you can learn to make mini clay versions of also bhujia, biscuits, platter and shot glasses, among others. **When:** March 27 **Details:** bookmyshow.com



LADIES NIGHT

Curated especially for women, enjoy Kala Chasma Ladies Night at The Boozie Griffin this weekend. **When:** March 23 **Details:** bookmyshow.com

COMEDIAN **GAURAV KAPOOR** WILL BE SHARING SOME HILARIOUS ANECDOTES AT BOHO ROOFTOP RESTAURANT AND BAR | **WHEN:** APRIL 3 | **DETAILS:** BOOKMYSHOW.COM

Movie Date

Treat your partner to a luxurious movie date where there will be a romantic tent set up, table decor, snackbox and also balloons on the floor. **When:** March 22-April 16 **Where:** Binge Club, HSR Layout

Art and Music Showcase

Optikal Asylum is an art and music showcase where over 500+ artists across the country will be performing. Catch UK Breakbeat dons Denham Audio & ManiFesto at Koramangala SOOAL!
When: March 26 **Details:** insidelin



Pottery Workshop

Find a way to be productive during the weekends. Learn pottery making and the art of hand-building and throwing a pot on the potter's wheel. **When:** March 22-31 **Details:** bookmyshow.com



Theatre Production

Wild Woman Witchcraft is a dance theatre production that shows the wild woman archetype in intuitive and visceral ways. Directed by Sahiba Singh, the show will take place at Flux, Indiranagar. **When:** March 26-27 **Details:** bookmyshow.com

Show time

Kathputliyan Theatre Group is presenting Saadhe Chay Rupye ka kya kiya. The play is a love story of a husband and wife and their playful conflicts on silly and littlest of things. **When:** March 27, 5-7pm Entry is free. **Where:** Alliance Francaise Bangalore, Vasanth Nagar



Hoop Flo

Learn the basics of Hoop Flo with Eshna Kutty. It's a 90-minute workshop with 30 minutes of jamming, and ideal of people above the age of 12. **When:** March 26 **Where:** The Hub, Shivaji Nagar



QUICK FIX

What's cooking IN YOUR KITCHEN?

We are hungry for recipes with minimum ingredients and maximum flavours. Share your quick-fix with us, along with step-by-step photos, at cityexpresschn@gmail.com.



CAPRESE SALAD

INGREDIENTS

- Cherry tomatoes: 350 g
- Bocconcini/buffalo mozzarella: 300 g (115 g after draining out the brine)
- Balsamic vinegar: 2 tbsp
- Extra virgin olive oil: 1 tbsp
- Himalayan pink salt: 2-3 pinches
- Fresh basil leaves: a handful

METHOD

- Cut the tomatoes in halves. Slice the mozzarella to match the cherry tomatoes in size.
- Cut the larger basil leaves finely. Use the smaller leaves for garnish.
- Mix the tomatoes, cheese, basil and a little olive oil.
- Mix balsamic vinegar, olive oil and salt.
- Plate it. Garnish with basil leaves and drizzle the dressing. Serve immediately.

— Sarika Gupta, Thiruvananthapuram (Instagram: @worldfood_gmmy_table)

FIT BIT

UTTANA PADASANA

(RAISED LEG POSE)

It is an intense stretch of the legs. As part of a spiritual practice, this asana is thought to encourage peace and ease feelings of irritation. It is also believed to open up the Visuddha (throat) Chakra, as the neck is lengthened in the fullest expression of the pose. As blood flow is increased to the heart and neck, it is thought to encourage love and self-assurance. In addition, it opens the Manipura (solar plexus) and Muladhara (root) Chakras. It is generally done at the end of the practice of all the inverted poses.

STEPS

- Lie down on your back with legs and arms stretched on the floor.
- Flex your elbows to lift the back and arch your neck. Bring the crown of your head to the floor to perform the backbend.
- Inhale, raise your legs off the floor extending them to a 45° angle. The feet remain together and toes point towards the ceiling. With an exhale, bring the arms forward joining the palms in a prayer pose.
- Stretch the arms parallel to the thighs. Balance the body on the crown of the head and hips.
- Hold the pose for about six breaths. Then, inhale and bring the arms down. Using the hands, relax the head to the floor.
- Exhale bringing the legs to the floor and relax in a supine pose.

LIMITATIONS

- People who have injury in the neck, back, pelvis, or leg muscles or are suffering from severe spondylitis, cardiac diseases or abnormal BP, and pregnant women, avoid this.
- Wait for two weeks after a hernia-repair surgery before practising it.
- If you have a migraine, then do not arch back.

BENEFITS

- Strengthens legs and hip muscles.
- Expands the leg muscles, which stretches the hamstrings, glutes, and calves.
- Enhances the blood flow to legs and hips muscles and strengthens them.
- Stretches the arms and shoulders.
- Enhances the blood circulation to the arms and improves the strength of the arms, elbows, and shoulders.
- Lengthening the spine and expanding the vertebrae enhances spine flexibility.
- It tones the abdomen and maintains metabolism.
- Stimulates reproductive organs.
- Engages the pelvic floor muscles and enhances the blood flow to the inner thighs, groins, and internal reproductive organs.
- Activates the organs and improves their efficiency.

By N. Elumalai, PhD scholar (Yoga Science) at Meenakshi Academy of Higher Education & Research, Chennai



SOUND BOARD

MY FAVORITE MURDER

Lifelong fans of true crime stories Karen Kilgariff and Georgia Hardstark tell each other their favorite tales of murder and hear hometown crime stories from friends and fans.

● On Apple Podcast

GOOD NIGHT STORIES FOR REBEL GIRLS

This is a fairy tale podcast for children about extraordinary women from all over the world. Based on the bestselling series Good Night Stories for Rebel Girls, each episode explores the lives of women from the books, encouraging young listeners to ask questions and explore their interests.

● On Spotify

KAHANI MEIN TWIST

This podcast includes short stories inspired from day to day life but every story has an unexpected turn of events that might leave you shocked, surprised and maybe amused!

● On Gaana

EAR HUSTLE

Ear Hustle dives into the realities of life inside prison... from those who are actually living it or have lived it. The podcast shares stories of people who have been involved in the American prison system as well as those reintegrating into society after having served time. Sometimes difficult, funny, and always honest, Ear Hustle gives listeners a view into the US prison system.

● On Spotify

TECHFLIX

The emergence of the COVID-19 virus has been proving nothing short of being an apocalypse and the impending post-Covid world will find itself further dependent on technology and its many inventions. Which leads us to really consider, isn't it time we acknowledge the implication that might have on our lives once this calamity gets over?

● On Gaana

POPULAR ON YOUTUBE

CHAKRAVARTHY

Shankar, a humble youth from Madikeri, heads out to Bengaluru in search of a job. His life changes drastically once he steps up to become an underworld gangster.

Cast: Darshan Thoogudeepa, Deepa Sanridhi, Dinakar Thoogudeepa

MANASU MALLIGE

A poor boy Parshu is in love with upper caste Sanju, the daughter of the local politician. But with caste politics and opposition at play, trouble seems in store ahead for them.

Cast: Rinku Rajguru, Nishanth, Tanaji Galgunde, Sourabh Kulakarni

CHAKRAVYUHA

Authorities turn a blind eye to the violence that takes place in a college at the behest of a corrupt minister. However, a student, Lohith, decides to take the law into his own hands.

Cast: Puneeth Rajkumar, Arun Vijay, Rachita Ram, Sadhu Kokila

JACKIE

Jackie is a man who lives by his wits and reaches out to people to solve their problems. But he lands himself in trouble when he is suspected of helping a priest's daughter elope with her lover.

Cast: Puneeth Rajkumar, Bhavana, Shobhraj, Ravi Kale

YAJAMANA

Krishna, the son-in-law of the village head, becomes the biggest enemy of Devi Shetty, a cruel gangster, when Devi decides to plunder the oil resources of the village and ruin villagers' livelihood.

Cast: Darshan Thoogudeepa, Rashmika Mandanna, Dhananjay, P. Ravi Shankar

WHAT'S ON TED TALKS



1 HOW TO GET BETTER AT VIDEO GAMES, ACCORDING TO BABIES BY BRIAN CHRISTIAN

In 2013, a group of researchers wanted to create an AI system that could beat every Atari game. They developed a system called Deep Q Networks (DQN) and less than two years later, it was superhuman. But when playing Montezuma's Revenge, DQN couldn't score a single point. What was it that made this game so vexingly difficult for AI?



2 HOW TO REDUCE BIAS IN YOUR WORKPLACE BY KIM SCOTT AND TRIER BRYANT

Gone unchecked, bias can make employees feel resentful, frustrated and silenced, and it can even lead to outright discrimination and harassment. Check out three key ways to reduce bias at work, according to Just Work cofounders Kim Scott and Trier Bryant.



3 HOW TO STOP LANGUISHING AND START FINDING FLOW BY ADAM GRANT

Have you found yourself staying up late, joylessly bingeing TV shows and doom-scrolling through the news, or simply navigating your day uninspired? Chances are you're languishing, says organisational psychologist Adam Grant. He breaks down the key indicators of languishing and presents three ways to escape that "meh" feeling.



4 THE CREATIVITY AND COMMUNITY BEHIND FANFICTION BY CECILIA ARAGON

Author, professor and fan-fiction writer Cecilia Aragon details her research into the vast online fan-fiction community, and shares its potential to foster a sense of belonging, strengthen writing skills and shape the future of literature.



5 THE CREATIVE POWER OF YOUR INTUITION BY BOZOMA SAINT JOHN

Great ideas are like electricity—they snap into sharp focus and sprint from place to place. What's the best way to capture them? Bozoma Saint John, chief marketing officer at Netflix, asks us to move away from an overreliance on data when making big decisions and calls on us to tap into the power of our intuition and become creative trailblazers.

REGIONAL



MAHAAN (Tamil)

A middle-aged school teacher, Gandhi Mahaan, embarks on a journey of self-discovery after getting abandoned by his family. He soon becomes a pride billionaire but faces many challenges.

Cast: Dhiruv Vikram, Bobby Simha, Deepak Paramesh, Vikram
 ● Watch on: Netflix

JALSA (Hindi)

It tells the story of a celebrated journalist and her cook and their conflict.

Cast: Manav Kaul, Vidya Balan, Shefali Shah
 Watch on: Netflix

UNDEKHI (Hindi, series)

A dancer is killed in a fit of rage at the wedding of the son of the Atwal family. A cop comes looking for the girl, while a film crew wants to expose the Atwals for their heinous crime. The Atwals will go to any lengths to remove pawns.

Cast: Harsh Chhaya, Dibyendu Bhatnagar, Surya Sharma
 ● Watch on: Sony LIV



CLAP (Telugu)

A former amputee athlete picks up a girl from a village to train for a national championship event.

Cast: Aadhi, Rajsekhar Aningi, Brahmani
 ● Watch on: Sony LIV



PICASSO (Marathi)

Gandharva is selected to be part of a national painting competition whose winner will get to travel to Picasso's birthplace in Spain, but his parents can't afford the entrance fee.

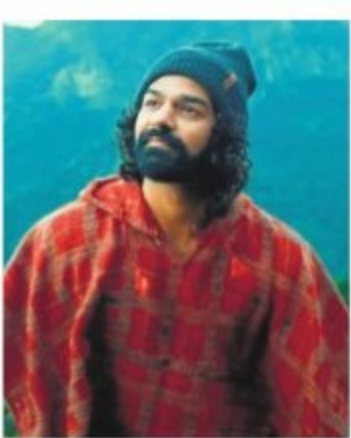
Cast: Prasad Oak, Ashwini Mukadam, Samay Tambe
 ● Watch on: Amazon Prime Video

All the streaming apps can be accessed on smartphones and smart TVs with Internet connection.

GUJARATI (Gujarati)

Ex-football player Divya takes up the challenge of training boys for a football tournament.

Cast: Daisy Shah, Kavin Dave, Pratik Gandhi
 ● Watch on: Amazon Prime Video



HRIDAYAM (Malayalam)

From carefree college days to becoming a successful wedding photographer, this coming-of-age story depicts the colours of Arun Neelakandan's exciting life.

Cast: Pranav Mohanlal, Kalyani Priyadarshan, Darshana Rajendran
 ● Watch on: Disney+ Hotstar

FOREIGN

THE ADAM PROJECT (English)

After accidentally crash-landing in 2022, time-traveling fighter pilot Adam Reed teams up with his 12-year-old self for a mission to save the future.

Cast: Ryan Reynolds, Mark Ruffalo, Walker Scobell, Jennifer Garner
 ● Watch on: Netflix



EYE FOR AN EYE (Spanish)

A cartel boss is released from prison and unknowingly put in the care of a vengeful nurse, whose life was tragically impacted by the drug lord.

Cast: Luis Tosar, Xan Cejudo, Ismael Martínez
 ● Watch on: Netflix



STREET FLOW (French)

Three brothers—a gangster, a scholar and an impressionable teen—learn hard lessons in the gritty suburbs while searching for the means to survive.

Cast: Kery James, Jammeh Diangana, Chloé Jouanet
 ● Watch on: Netflix



ISI & OSS (German)

A billionaire's daughter fakes a relationship with a cash-strapped boxer in order to coerce her parents into letting her pursue her culinary dreams.

Cast: Lisa Vicari, Dennis Mojen, Walid Al-Ayat
 ● Watch on: Netflix

NOW STREAMING



Disney+ Hotstar: ₹ 499 per year
 Apple TV: ₹ 99 per month
 Prime Video: ₹ 179 per month
 Netflix: ₹ 149 per month

Dress it up or dress it down... Oversized or boyfriend blazers are now a top trend with fashion followers

SIZE MATTERS

MONIKA MONALISA

ALIA Bhatt wore it for the promotion of her latest movie *Gangubai Kathiawadi* at Berlin Film Festival, Deepika Padukone had worn it while promoting *Gehraiyaan* and now the trend of oversized or boyfriend blazers has slipped into the wardrobe of many girls in the city. Although a huge trend in late '80s and '90s saw Hollywood actors like Meg Ryan and Julia Roberts making it popular, the trend is now back in fashion. The blazer's oversize also makes it popular with summer trends.

For model and choreographer Jackie Besterwitch, an oversized jacket is one of the must-haves in her wardrobe. Being a fashion model and being spoiled with choices, an oversized blazer is her go-to picks. "We have seen it being quite trendy in Hollywood Rom-Coms like *When Harry Met Sally* or *My Best Friend's Wedding*. In India, the trend took some time to catch up but now, a lot of girls are taking up the look," says Besterwitch.

With the summer heat here, many might find it difficult to associate the blazers. But Besterwitch points out that it's all about styling it smartly.

"You can pair it up with a

sports bra, bralette or tights to make it more breezy and free flowing. The options are endless," she says.

Adding to that, co-founder and creative director of House of Three, Shounak Sen Barat, says if the concern is to beat the heat, oversized blazers are available in different handspun fabric like the linen. "Androgyny has been a staple standard in my design philosophy and hand-spun material is something that we thrive on," says Barat. Sharing a bit of its history, he says women started wearing and popularising men's blazer during World War II "when they had to step out of home and wear men's blazer to go work". But now the trend has been caught up in different spheres altogether.

With offices opening up, the trend has caught up with lot of working women too. And Radhika Sharma, a marketeer, can vouch for it. "I work in the marketing field, so looking presentable is one of the key factors. The oversized blazer goes well with day and night look," says Sharma.

Celebrity stylist Varshini Janakiraman says it's not just western look, one can style it up to give a desi look as well. "You can team it with a monochrome tights and use heavy earrings or a statement choker or long necklace to go with it," says Janakiraman.



“

You can pair the oversized blazer with a sports bra, bralette or tights to make it more breezy and free flowing. The options are endless

Jackie Besterwitch,
model and choreographer



Designed by Shounak Sen Barat

Film festival on women and nature aims to highlight many women-led environment campaigns across the country

EXPRESS FEATURES

WHEN you think jacaranda, you think of the trumpet-shaped purple flowers that are slowly taking over the city these days. Giving it a deeper meaning is NGO Bangalore Film Society. In association with Bangalore Sustainability Forum as an inter-institutional collaborative initiative, they are organising Jacaranda Tales, a film festival on women and nature.

It aims to symbolise Jacaranda (purple)—a colour that feminists have historically used to represent the women's liberation movement — as a celebration of women's symbiotic relationship with nature. It focuses on highlighting women across

REAL TO REEL

generations who have stood up to conserve and protect the environment, often putting themselves at risk. It underlines the several movements cutting across culture and geographies led by women, who despite their contributions continue to remain marginalised and vulnerable.

Georgekutty AL, secretary of the Bangalore Film Society, says, "This is the month where Bangalore is blessed with a lot of these purple jacaranda flow-



A still from *Dweepa*

ers. On the flip side, we want to bring in the symbolism of the rampant deforestation in the city for different development works through jacaranda. The stories in the film festival will also highlight the similar plight that is a concern not just in In-

dia but also in developing countries."

There will be 24 films screens, spanning across multiple languages. Films like *Dweepa*, directed by Girish Kasaravalli, highlights how a rural woman loses her home due to the con-

struction of a dam; *Narmada: A Valley Rises* by Ali Kazimi is a documentary based on activist Medha Patkar who opposes the construction of Narmada dam; *Agar Woh Desh Banati* by Maheeh Mirza is about a group of Adivasi women who led the fight against mining and power plants in Chhattisgarh, among others, will be screened.

Manasi Pingle, a co-ordinator of Bangalore Sustainability Forum, says, "Women have been in the front of many environmental campaigns in the recent past. The problem is not many recognise their efforts and they go unsung. This platform brings forth women from different parts of the country cutting across cultural backgrounds who have fought for their territorial and environmental rights."

The film festival will be held between March 23 to 26 at Gandhi Bhavana Kumara Park East. Entry is free.



AN you appreciate the good that comes your way without wanting it to be better?

We find ourselves in a world where we are told to maximise everything and live life to the fullest, where every other message we hear is about how we simply must leverage what we have to make more, be more, enjoy more, and have more. When in school, with critical adults, even if they are congratulating a child for securing 90 per cent, will often tell the kid to work just that bit extra harder to get the balance ten percent as well. We are told that there are no silver-medal winners, only those who lost the gold medal, that the world remembers the first people on the moon, but not the ones that reached there after them. We are told that only the biggest and brightest matter: If we own a cycle, we are pushed to get a bike, and then a car, and then a BMW or a Rolls Royce after that, then a private jet — the push to be better and have better is relentless.

Relationships are hardly immune to that kind of pressure. When introducing a new partner to a group of

friends, some wonder if this person will meet the group's approval, or would they think one could have done better, or worse, what if they think one is not good enough for the group anymore if this is as good as one could do! We see people comparing sizes of their rings to see which diamond was bigger, checking whose education was better, who earns more, what families they come from, and whatnot. So often, the ideas of love and romance get smothered under the pressure of needing something to be better, bigger.

Even within relationships, sometimes a perfectly good moment can get tarnished by the need to have better. Take for instance a date night that one person organises for another. Imagine the whole thing is a surprise, and so when they bring the loved one to a nice place for a meal, and their loved one says, "This is not bad, but couldn't you get a reservation at that new Italian place? That would have been so much better!" Would that help the relationship or hurt it? Sure, there is a place and time for feedback.

On this date, for instance, if the surprise was sushi and sashimi and you are allergic to it, of course, you'd want a change of place, but otherwise, if you are critical of the good things all the time just because there is better to be had, would you be motivating your loved one? Chances are that they might try for a bit, but if the push is relentless, sooner or later they are likely to resent it and give up trying.

If we can appreciate the good as it is, and let better things happen as they will, we will likely have many more moments of love to remember and cherish.



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CHANGE OF NAME

CHANGE OF NAME

I, RIJUTHA ASHWATH, Residing at #25, 'Sri Lalith' Plat No. 303, 22nd main, Vijayanagar, Bangalore-560040. I have changed my name from Rijutha to RIJUTHA ASHWATH. Vide affidavit dated on : 02-03-2022. Sworn before notary : M.K.Devaki.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, VISHNUVARDHAN P.S. aged about 27 years, S/o Srinivasulu Reddy, P. Residing at: No.152, Chikkamuniyappa Garden, Near Ayyappa Swamy Temple, Yelahanka Old Town, Bangalore North, Bangalore-560004, declare that my Passport wrongly mentioned in my father's name is PYDALAYA SRINIVASULU REDDY instead of PIDDIYA SRINIVASULU REDDY and I have declared this as per affidavit dated 19-03-2022 sworn to before Advocate & Notary S.R. Ravikumar, Bengaluru

CHANGE OF NAME

I, Binny Srampical Rocky, S/o Late Rocky Chacko, Aged about 44 years, Residing at No.101, Nanda Gokula Apartments, Building No.26, 2nd Floor, Lower Palace Orchards, Sadashivanagar, Bengaluru-560003. Herby declare that, I have changed my minor Son's (aged 12 years) name from 'RYAN BINNY SRAMPICAL' to 'RYAN BINNY SRAMPICAL' Vide Affidavit dated 21.03.2022, Sworn before Advocate and Notary A.S. Viswanatha, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, Binny Srampical Rocky, S/o Late Rocky Chacko, Aged about 44 years, Residing at No.101, Nanda Gokula Apartments, Building No.26, 2nd Floor, Lower Palace Orchards, Sadashivanagar, Bengaluru-560003. Herby declare that, I have changed my minor Daughter's (aged 10 years) name from 'RHEA BINNY SRAMPICAL' to 'RHEA BINNY SRAMPICAL' Vide Affidavit dated 21.03.2022, Sworn before Advocate and Notary A.S. Viswanatha, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, (OLD NAME) ALISHETTI VIMALA Spouse of No. 15330664N Hav Vemula Srinivas Residing at House No 7/326, Sri Rampur (vill & post), Laksetipet (taluk), Adilabad (Dist), Telangana (State), PIN : 504303, Have changed my name to (NEW NAME) VEMULA VIMALA Vide Affidavit Dated 19.03.2022 sworn Before Notary Meer Hassan Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, (OLD NAME) AMRITA PAVANGAD, W/o. Akshay Panchariya, D/o. Ashok Pavangad, residing at No. 141, 4th Main Road, SBM Colony, Anand Nagar, Bangalore-560014, have changed my name to (NEW NAME) AMRITA AKSHAY PANCHARIYA vide affidavit Dated 15/03/2022 sworn before Notary Prakasha.C., Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, (OLD NAME) MUNEEER AHAMED KADHIR, residing at No. 118, 7th Main Road, New Bagalur Layout, St. Thomas Town, Bangalore-560084, have changed my name from (OLD NAME) MUNEEER AHAMED KADHIR to (NEW NAME) MUNIR AHMED vide affidavit Dated 19/03/2022 sworn before Notary R.Basavaraja, Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, (OLD NAME) KAUSALYA BALAKRISHNAN, residing at Flat No. 108, Elegant Springdale, Kemp road, Pulikeshi Nagar, Fraser Town, Bangalore-560005, have changed my name from (OLD NAME) KAUSALYA BALAKRISHNAN to (NEW NAME) KOWSALYA BALAKRISHNAN vide affidavit Dated 21/03/2022 sworn before Notary D.B.Ramesh Bashkar, Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, ANIL KUMAR SHANKAR R/at B22 THE SUMMIT NO. 27/3 Sankey Road, 2nd Floor, Vasanth Nagar, Bangalore-560052, have changed my name to ANIL SHANKAR vide affidavit dated:19/3/2022 Before Notary K.V.Mani Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, SHREEDHARA K A S/o Aruvajappa R/at No.906, 1st Cross, 18th Main, Rajeshwari Dwellings, Kenchenahalli, RR Nagar, Bengaluru- 560098 have changed my name to SRIDHAR K A vide affidavit dated: 21/3/2022 Before Notary M.K.Devaki Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, RESHMA DINESH, aged 42 years, W/o. Dinesh B.M. residing at No.11/2, 5th Cross, Karnick Road, Shankarapuram, Bengaluru-560004, have changed my name to BANGALORE VIJENDRAGOWDA RESHMA vide affidavit dated 21-03-2022 sworn before Notary H.S. SAKALESHE ARADHYA, BENGALURU.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, SHIVAKUMARA K.M S/o Mallaiiah B. R/at No.64, Shivaleela, 2nd Cross, 3rd Block, Ullal Main Road, Vishweshwaraiah Layout, Bengaluru- 560056, have changed my name to SHIVAKUMAR K.M vide affidavit dated: 21/3/2022 Before Notary M.K.Devaki Bangalore

CHANGE OF NAME

I, SHRUTHI SUBBARAYAPPA R/at No.01, 13th B Cross, 9th Main, Vyalikaval, Bengaluru-560003, have changed my name to SHRUTHI RAVIKUMAR vide affidavit dated:19/3/2022 Before Notary K.V.Mani Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, RUPA V TALLAM, resident of No. 67-8, 2nd Floor, A Radha Krishna Apartment, K.R. Road, Basavanagudi, Bangalore - 560 004, hereby declare that I have changed my name from RUPA VYBHAV TALLAM RAMPRASAD to RUPA V TALLAM, hereinafter I shall be known and called as RUPA V TALLAM only, vide affidavit dated 18.03.2022 sworn to before Mamatha .N.K, Advocate & Notary, Bengaluru.

AFFIDAVIT / CHANGE OF NAME

I, KALAVATHI PANDU, Mother of No. 15315450A, Rank: Ex.Hav, Name: P. Radhakrishnan, residing at No. 8, Balaji Layout, Near Nagamunishwara Layout, Hosur Road, Parappan Agrahara, Bangalore - 560 100, hereby declare that in my son's Army Records my name wrongly mentioned as KALAVATHI, Date of Birth : 50 years, My Correct name is KALAVATHI PANDU, date of birth: 10/05/1955. I hereby state that I changed my name from KALAVATHI to KALAVATHI PANDU and both the names belongs to me and refers to me only. Vide affidavit 19.03.2022 sworn to before B.N. Nagabhushana, Advocate & Notary, Bengaluru.

AFFIDAVIT / CHANGE OF NAME

I, JAISHRI R, Daughter of No. 15315450A, Rank: Ex.Hav, Name: P. Radhakrishnan, residing at No. 8, Balaji Layout, Near Nagamunishwara Layout, Hosur Road, Parappan Agrahara, Bangalore - 560 100, hereby declare that in my father's Army Records my name wrongly mentioned as R. JAYASREE, My Correct name is JAISHRI R, I hereby state that I changed my name from R. JAYASREE to JAISHRI R and both the names belongs to me and refers to me only. Vide affidavit 19.03.2022 sworn to before B.N. Nagabhushana, Advocate & Notary, Bengaluru.

AFFIDAVIT / CHANGE OF NAME

I, REKHA .J.M. Wife of No. 15315450A, Rank: Ex.Hav, Name: P. Radhakrishnan, residing at No. 8, Balaji Layout, Near Nagamunishwara Layout, Hosur Road, Parappan Agrahara, Bangalore - 560 100, hereby declare that in my Husband's Army Records my name wrongly mentioned as R. REKHA, Date of Birth: 03/12/1983, My Correct name is REKHA .J.M, Date of Birth: 03/12/1987, I hereby state that I changed my name from R. REKHA to REKHA .J.M and both the names belongs to me and refers to me only. Vide affidavit 19.03.2022 sworn to before B.N. Nagabhushana, Advocate & Notary, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, Sri RAKESH GOPI K. S/o Late KR Gopi, aged about 38 years, R/at No. #16, TMN Street, 3rd Main Road, New Tippasandra, Bangalore-560075, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from RAKESH GOPI KG to RAKESH GOPI K, henceforth I shall be known and called as RAKESH GOPI K only for all purposes, vide affidavit dated 21-3-2022, sworn before Advocate and Notary B. CHITRA at Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, PRARTHANA SHEKHAR, age 19 years, D/o Shanamma Shekar, R/at No. 17, Aaradhana, Bens Sathya Enclave, Near Saroj Enclave, Hennur Main Road, Kalyan Nagar, Bengaluru-560 043, Karnataka do hereby declare that I have changed my name from PRARTHANA SHAMANNA SHEKHAR to PRARTHANA SHEKHAR, henceforth I shall be known and called as PRARTHANA SHEKHAR only for all purposes, vide affidavit dated 23rd Dec. 2021, sworn before Advocate and Notary Sivakumara M.N. at Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, Sanskar S, aged about 19 years, S/o Nagshetty S, aged about 46 years, Flat No. A - 301 Renaissance Exotica, Jakkur Plantation Road, Jakkur, Bangalore - 560064. States that I am changing my name from Sanskar to Sanskar S (New name) for all purposes. Bangalore, Dated:21.03.2022

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Toofan, the first single from Yash's *KGF: Chapter 2* out



A still from the film

CE FEATURES

THE makers of the upcoming pan-Indian actioner *KGF: Chapter 2* have unveiled the first song from the film.

Titled *Toofan*, the Ravi Basurur composition is strongly reminiscent of 'Dheera Dheera' from the original. The lyrical video transports the viewer back to the eponymous setting and brushes your memory of the high points from its 2018 prequel.

The iconic 'hammer' scene and several other moments that contributed to the ascension of *Rocky in KGF: Chapter 1* are presented once again, while also giving a glimpse of what the protagonist is up to in the new chapter. We see

shots of *Rocky* working alongside the oppressed prisoners. In all, *Toofan* kickstarts the highly awaited film's marketing campaign in style.

Penning by Ravi Basurur, the song features the vocals of Santhosh Venky, Varsha Acharya, Mohan Krishna, Sachin Basurur, Puneeth Rudranag, and Manesh Dinakar.

The film also stars Srinidhi Shetty, Raveena Tandon, Prakash Raj, Malvika Avinash, Achyuth Kumar, Ayyappa P Sharma, Rao Ramesh, and Eshwari Rao.

Directed by Prashanth Neel and bankrolled by Hombale Films, the trailer of the film is set to release next week, while the film is gearing up for a April 14 release.



Sambeet Acharya

'Working in the Kannada industry will help me elevate my film career'

...says Sambeet Acharya, a popular actor from Odisha, who made his debut with *Mysuru*

CE FEATURES

POPULAR Odia actor Sambeet Acharya is happy to have made his mark in Sandalwood.

The 25-film old-artist played the lead hero in writer-filmmaker Vasudev Reddy's film, *Mysuru*, which was released a couple of weeks ago. The film also featured Jayashree, Kuri Prathap, and Ashok Hegde in the cast. "It's my relationship with director Vasudev Reddy, which brought me to Kannada cinema. I had done a documentary, and he offered me this feature film. Secondly, the film had an Odia-Kannada connect, which was another attraction," says Sambeet, adding,

"I often read and hear about Kannada films, especially for its unique content, and I thought working in such an industry will elevate my career."

Meanwhile, Sambeet is steadily making inroads in other South industries as he is gearing up for the release of his first Telugu film, *Vikram Reddy*, which is expected to release in August. The actor also revealed that he is in talks for a couple of projects in Kannada. "I'm looking to get more work in the south. I've been approached for interesting characters, and an announcement will be made as and when I sign on the dotted line," he says.



Riteish and Genelia

Riteish-Genelia's *Mister Mummy* goes on floors

CE FEATURES

RITEISH Deshmukh and Genelia D'Souza are set to begin shooting for their upcoming comedy-drama *Mister Mummy* in England.

Directed by Shaad Ali and backed by Bhushan Kumar's T-Series, Krishna Kumar, Ali and Siva Ananth, *Mister Mummy* revolves around a couple who have opposing viewpoints when it comes to having children.

The announcement about the start of the shooting was made on the official handle of T-Series. It said, "And the journey begins, *Mister Mummy* goes on floors today in England."

Incidentally, Riteish and Genelia made their acting debut with the romantic drama, *Tujhe Meri Kasam* (2003). They have worked in films like *Masti* and *Tere Naal Love Ho Gaya*.

Genelia, who is making a return to acting after a long hiatus, will also be seen in the Marathi film, *Ved*, which marks the directorial debut of Riteish. She will also be seen in the Kannada film that is set to launch Kireeti Reddy as a lead actor.

UPENDRA'S *HOME MINISTER* TO HIT THE SCREENS FROM APRIL 1



The family entertainer, directed by Sujay K Srihari, stars Vedhika, Tanya Hope and Chandini

A SHARADHAA

OVER the past two years, the makers of *Home Minister* have deferred the release of the film owing to the pandemic. However, it has now come to light that the Upendra-starrer will hit theatres on April 1. This was announced at the film's grand audio release event, which was held on Sunday.

Politician and producer Munirathna, actors Ganesh and Prajwal Devaraj were the chief guests at the function. The Real Star recalled how the film came about and spoke about director Sujay K Srihari and producer Poorna's faith in the subject. The makers also released the audio and trailer of the family entertainer. "*Home Minister* had a tempting subject, and I was a little hesitant about pulling off such a character. However, after a lot of discussions, it was producer Poorna who pushed me to take up the project. I hope his confidence and faith in the subject wins at the box office," says Upendra, who also had words of praise about his co-stars, Vedhika, Tanya Hope, and Chandini, and said that each actor has excelled in their respective characters.

Backed by S Poorna Chandru Naidu and Srikanth Veeramachineni, *Home Minister* will be distributed by Bangalore Kumar Films. With music by Ghibran, *Home Minister* has cinematography by S Kumar. *Home Minister* also stars Suman Ranganath, Sadhu Kokila, and Avinash in pivotal roles.

RUNWAY 34 TRAILER OUT



CE FEATURES

THE trailer of Ajay Devgn, Amitabh Bachchan-starrer *Runway 34* was released earlier today. The film is an aviation thriller, directed and produced by Ajay.

The film revolves around Captain Vikrant Khanna played by Ajay, a flying prodigy, whose flight takes a mysterious course after take-off from an international destination. The trailer doesn't show how Vikrant, along with his co-pilot (played by Rakul Preet Singh), gets the flight out of the turbulence. However, the trailer hints that there was something odd about how it ended. Soon enters Amitabh Bachchan's character, who locks horns with Ajay's in a legal battle.



Nushratt Bharuccha

Diana Penty

NUSHRRATT, DIANA ON BOARD *SELFIEE*

CE FEATURES

It has been announced that Nushratt Bharuccha and Diana Penty have joined the cast of *Selfiee*. The film stars Akshay Kumar and Emraan Hashmi in lead roles. The news was revealed by the actors through a video in which Nushratt and Diana are enjoying the film's title song in a car along with Akshay and Emraan.

"All smiles always when surrounded with the best energy. Super excited to join the team of *Selfiee*," Nushratt wrote on her social media profile, while sharing the video. Interestingly, Nushratt and Akshay have shared screen space in the yet-to-be-released *Ram Setu*.

Selfiee is an official adaptation of the Malayalam hit, *Driving Licence*, starring Prithviraj and Suraj Venjaramoodu in the roles. The remake is directed by Raj Mehta, who earlier directed Akshay in the 2019 hit, *Good Newzz*.

Selfiee is produced by Dharma Productions and Akshay Kumar's Cape of Good Films along with Prithviraj's Prithviraj Productions and Magic Frames. The film is expected to be released in cinemas later this year.

'Streaming has removed barriers, freed up writing'

Farhan Akhtar, Zoya Akhtar, Reema Kagti and Jim Sarbh on their Netflix series *Eternally Confused and Eager for Love*

SHILAJIT MITRA

sat down with *Eternally Confused and Eager for Love* expecting to be put off. The show is full of rich kids, manicured soccer turfs and certain restaurants and pubs you can only gape at from outside. Yet something sweet, and inquisitive, emerges from its heart. Streaming on Netflix, the 8-part series is about Ray (Vihaan Samat), a 24-year-old Mumbai boy who's yet to pop his corn. Ray has a keychain, Wiz, that he picked up as a kid. In moments of deep stress, which is all the time, he talks to it, a childhood quirk that's grown into a friendship. They share a charged, eristic bond. Their chatter is consistently entertaining. Naturally, Wiz gets the best lines, and puns—I was personally sold at "when Pushpa comes to shove."

"I'm glad you noticed it," smiles Jim Sarbh, who has voiced Wiz. The line, it turns out, was improvised, like many others. "These little jokes are sprinkled throughout the show. Because it's all in Ray's head, they can come and go without emphasis. No one in the scene has to react to them." The inner-voice conceit was also handy in a dramatic sense. Ray, a dweeb and an introvert, needs someone to constantly voice out his anxieties. When he gets nervous with a date in episode 2, Wiz spells it out for him. "She's fat," he announces bluntly. There is a correction soon after—the show is never cruel or overly insensitive—but the line works as an unfiltered peek into Ray's psyche.

"Thoughts are free of all restrictions," says Farhan Akhtar, who has co-produced the show with Zoya Akhtar and Reema Kagti's Tiger Baby. "You can think anything without having to act on it. There is no morality to a thought." Farhan's first two films as director, *Dil Chahta Hai* and *Lakshya*, were also coming-of-age sagas about the urban young. Indeed, he describes Wiz as a combination of 'Aamir and Akshay's voices in Saif's head' from *Dil Chahta Hai*. But that film is now 20 years old, made for a generation without Instagram or dating apps. Surely youngsters today navigate relationships differently? "With the changing world what's happened is that one can get rejected more easily," Farhan laughs. "The so-



cial scene is much more demanding now."

A lot of the charm of *Eternally Confused...* stems from its lead actor. Vihaan had last appeared in *Mismatched*, another Netflix series about yearning millennials. For Ray, he was tested in early 2020 but got a callback only after the first lockdown (one can imagine Wiz-like voiceovers chiding him out). His audition tapes stood out to everyone. "Ray had

to be immensely likable and charming and at the same time carry off that wicked insecurity and anxiety," Zoya says. "Vihaan had all of it." "The moment I saw (his audition) I knew we'd found the guy," Reema adds.

Eternally is the third collaboration between Tiger Baby and Excel Entertainment (co-owned separately by Farhan and Ritesh Sidhwani). Collectively, they have backed some of the

defining titles on the Indian web. Considering that their theatrical game is equally strong—Farhan, Zoya and Reema have all directed mainstream hits—one wonders what the online space has further enabled them to do. "OTT has allowed us to find a home for stories that aren't conventional," maintains Zoya. "For instance, I could never make my segment in *Lust Stories* as a feature film. And it's possibly my favourite one."

She is presently developing an ambitious Archie comics adaptation set in 1960s India. The musical, slated for Netflix, is unlikely to have happened before. "There are lesser barriers now of censorship, language, length. The audience, too, isn't as box-office obsessed. They either like something or they don't. They can separate the wheat from the chaff." Farhan agrees and adds another point. "Earlier, when we wrote, we had to appeal to a wide range of audiences. Streaming lifts that weight off you. You don't think if something needs songs. You can be completely true to your world." "Also low-budget films don't get shelved anymore," Reema concludes.